

# the johns hopkins NEWS-LETTER

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## Vox editor-in-chief talks 2016 election

By ROLLIN HU

Staff Writer

Ezra Klein, journalist and editor-in-chief of the news site Vox, spoke at Shriver Hall on Wednesday as part of the Foreign Affairs Symposium (FAS). Klein is also a noted political and economic columnist and has worked for the *Washington Post*, Bloomberg and various MSNBC programs.

During the talk, Klein discussed what he thought was novel about this year's elections. Specifically, he talked about rise of Donald Trump as the Republican presidential frontrunner and the roles of political parties in the election.

Klein first clarified that he could not speak definitively on what can or cannot happen but could remark on the peculiarity of the election.

"I want to say this before I start: I come to you with humility. I did not predict any of this. I

did not predict Donald Trump will be in a position he's in today — nobody did, unless you are a lunatic or very smart," Klein said. "And yet we come on TV every night, and we write on our websites or our print publications and confidently tell you what it all means. I do not know what it all means. What I have at this point are not confident pronouncements but hypotheses that are worth testing."

Klein began by pointing out several of his observations of the election thus far, including the decline of the importance of the mainstream political elite of the Democratic and Republican parties.

"Party elites don't matter and endorsements are a garbage predictor of political outcome," Klein said. "Before, parties appeared to have a lot of control over party outcomes. This year, it has not really held true."

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COURTESY OF ALBERT HUANG

Ezra Klein discussed changes in the American political landscape.

## Journal to expand Christian dialogue on campus

By KELSEY KO

Staff Writer

The *Hopkins Dialectic*, a new student journal, will examine the intersection of Christianity with science, philosophy and literature. The journal was founded last semester by sophomore Karl Johnson and plans to publish its first issue next month.

"Over the summer, some friends and I, we wanted to create a response to a lot of different questions and criticisms people have about Christianity like 'Why is this in the Old Testament? It seems immoral,'" Johnson, who serves as editor-in-chief, said. "[We wanted] to research some of these questions and write out responses and have them for the campus."

Johnson's brother then told him about the Augustine Collective, a network of Christian-based publications at colleges across the country, including all eight Ivy League institutions.

The Collective inspired Johnson to move forward with his plan to establish a journal at Hopkins. He began discussing the idea with Christian students at the beginning of the fall semester to gauge interest and found that many wanted to be involved.

"We met a lot over the fall semester to talk about what we wanted this journal to be, what types of things we wanted to write about, what was our tact, what was our presence on campus," Johnson said.

The *Dialectic* team has been working on writing

and editing, fund-raising and marketing since Thanksgiving. Their funds have primarily come from alumni, churches and a Go-Fund-Me page.

In order to increase their presence on campus, *Dialectic* has been hosting open forums for the student body to discuss religious issues. Johnson said such events also promote the ultimate purpose of the journal.

"The name 'Dialectic' is synonymous with a discussion, a conversation, not an argument or a debate, that tries not to get to a single answer but just an open-ended discussion," Johnson said. "Ultimately, what we want this journal to be is a discussion off the page."

One of the recent forums was titled Beyond Nature: Investigating the Crossroads of Science and Religion and was held on March 3 in Gilman Hall.

The *Dialectic* co-hosted the event with the Hopkins chapter of *The Triple Helix*, a research-based scientific journal. The event provoked conversation about how Hopkins students feel about the intersection between science and religion.

Sophomore Alizay Jalihi, the chair of event planning for *The Triple Helix*, explained why the club decided to collaborate with *The Dialectic* to put on the event.

"*The Triple Helix* is an international student-run organization that promotes dialogue about the interdisciplinary nature

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### Womanism and Feminism

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The Digital Media center hosts a talk on the role of women in the video game industry. ARTS, PAGE B3

## MEN'S LAX VS. PRINCETON



SOFYA FREYMAN/PHOTOGRAPHY STAFF

Sophomore Shack Stanwick helped the Blue Jays to a 17-7 victory on Saturday with two goals and three assists. See Page B12.

## The Chainsmokers to headline Spring Fair

By JACQUI NEBER

News & Features Editor

This year's Spring Fair lineup and headliner were revealed Wednesday night at PJ's Pub Charles Village. Almost 100 students and Baltimoreans paid the \$10 entrance fee for a slice of pizza and two drinks to watch the reveal.

Shwayze and Marian Hill will open for The Chainsmokers, an EDM duo who first gained popularity in 2014 with their single "#Selfie." Recent songs such as "Don't Let Me Down," "Let You Go," and their current hit, "Roses," have catapulted the band to new heights in the past year. Their debut EP "Bouquet" has climbed

the charts, and "Roses" peaked at #6 in the U.S.

Shwayze's most popular song "Buzzin'" was featured on the popular TV show *Gossip Girl* in 2008, and the rapper's subsequent self-titled album has received mixed reviews.

The reveal was staged at exactly 11:10 p.m. and although many students said they had midterms the next day, PJ's was more crowded than it would be on a typical Wednesday night.

Despite this being the first public announcement of the lineup, many Hopkins students already had an idea of who would be performing.

Sophomore Trevor Al-

len's suspicions were confirmed.

"Shwayze — that's my guess," he said. "It's a very educated guess, though."

The announcement provoked excitement for students and pubgoers alike. Some even went so far as to say this lineup is Spring Fair's best in recent memory.

Last year's fair was headlined by Nelly, and

the 2014 Spring Fair featured J. Cole.

This year's Spring Fair will commence on Friday April 15 and continue through Sunday, featuring food trucks, vendors, activities for kids and a Beer Garden for attendees 21 and older. The theme is Camp Spring Fair.

Spring Fair is the largest student-run festival in the country.

## White House rep. talks gender biases in STEM

By ROLLIN HU

Staff Writer

Jo Handelsman, associate director for science at the White House's Office of Science and Technology, spoke in Mason Hall on Tuesday about pervasive unconscious biases against employing women and minorities in the STEM fields.

**Diversity is strength. It actually is a scientifically supported assertion.**

— Jo HANDELSMAN,  
WHITE HOUSE  
OFFICE OF SCIENCE  
AND TECHNOLOGY

America, which is the most diverse country on Earth, it's a strength that we have to be using far better than we actually are because it is one of our tools for greatness."

She tied diversity to the growing need for jobs in STEM fields.

"Science is critical. It is driving the greatest innovation and economic development in the nation. The jobs that are open to STEM majors aren't being filled," Handelsman said.

"Science is critical. It is driving the greatest innovation and economic development in the nation. The jobs that are open to STEM majors aren't being filled," Handelsman said.

"Before we reach any of the goals in adding more jobs, we have to address some of the most fundamental barriers, and one I'll talk about today is unconscious bias."

Handelsman also stated that although scientists see their fields as true meritocracies, they are also subject to the consequences of unconscious bias.

"There are a number of kinds of data that show we don't have this meritocracy that we think we have," she said.

To support her argument, Handelsman presented several well-reviewed scientific experiments and studies on the

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## NEWS &amp; FEATURES

# Loury, Spence debate effectiveness of Black Lives Matter movement



IVANA SU/PHOTOGRAPHY EDITOR

The debate was moderated by associate professor Steven Teles.

By MORGAN OME

For The News-Letter

The Department of Political Science and the Center for Africana Studies hosted a debate entitled From Protest to Politics? #BLM and the Future of Black America this past Wednesday in Levering's Great Hall. The debate featured JHU's Associate Professor of Political Science Lester Spence and Brown University's Merton P. Stoltz Professor of the Social Sciences and Professor of Economics Glenn C. Loury. The two professors discussed the Black Lives Matter movement and the state of social and racial justice in America.

Loury obtained his BA in Mathematics from Northwestern University and his Ph.D. in Economics from Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

In November 2015, Loury published an op-ed in *The Brown Daily Herald* entitled "The political inefficacy of saying, 'Black lives matter."

Spence obtained his BA and Ph.D. in Political Science from the University of Michigan. At Hopkins, Spence specializes in the study of black, racial and urban politics. In 2015, he received the JHU 21st Century Cities Seed Grant for his research project "How do Black Lives Matter? Assessing the Determinants of Municipal Police Spending."

Associate Professor of Political Science Steven Teles moderated the debate.

Loury opened the debate reflecting on the current state of Black America and black politics.

"I'm going to try to serve here as a provocateur," Loury said. "My primary goal is to induce a critical dialogue which I think is necessary at this time."

Loury discussed activism in black communities, affirmative action and the BLM movement. Regarding affirmative action, Loury stated that while he is not against affirmative action, he finds it problematic.

"If our people, that is black people, don't wake up, we're going to be dependent on white liberal largesse for the next half century," he said. "I'm disgusted by people who think that because we needed affirmative action a half century ago to open up closed spaces in the wake of Jim Crow's demise, that our grandchildren and great-grandchildren will continue to need it, too."

He proceeded to read from several of his published pieces, including his op-ed from *The Brown Daily Herald*, which argues for the adoption of the All Lives Matter movement.

"At the end of the day, there can be no racial justice that will last without establishing universal social justice," Loury said.

Loury stated that he does not see the All Lives Matter movement as an opposition to the BLM movement, but rather as a movement with a more

comprehensive and universal end goal. He took issue with making race central to the discussion of police violence.

"[It] invites a counter-discourse in which the race of the perpetrators and the victims of everyday street crimes comes to be accepted as a legitimate topic of public argument," he said.

Spence began his counter-remarks by first acknowledging the importance of Loury's work and by addressing the purpose of politics and political action. He then discussed the definition of black politics, using a definition submitted by a student in one of his classes. According to this student, "black politics is about bringing pressure to bear on institutions for the purpose of social reform."

Spence argued that the role of black politics should be to generate change and better the quality of life for people living in communities with socioeconomic disadvantages. He believed that the BLM movement is attempting to institute change by using the issue of police encounters, claiming that activists are trying to extend the level of care types of black people that the public cares about. Spence stated that victims of police brutality Michael Brown, Freddie Gray and Eric Garner, for example, were not "choir boys" or figures like Rosa Parks.

In response to Loury's advocacy for the All Lives Matter movement, he stated that there is a reason for the emergence of the BLM movement. Cities such as Baltimore and Chicago are places of concentrated, hyper-segregation. Thus, Spence believed it made sense that BLM targeted a specific group in generating a sense of group within the black community. He also gave credit to the progress that the BLM movement has spurred. Spence attributed the changes in Ferguson's tax structuring and the recent acquisition of two out of three city council positions to BLM protests. In Baltimore, Spence credited the election of Marilyn Mosby and the poor public opinion of Stephanie Rawlings-Blake to the efforts of the BLM movement.

Spence further challenged Loury's criticism of affirmative action, explaining that studies about the gap between the qualifications of black students and the requirements of universities are not conclusive.

"Institutions are not just about credentialing kids," Spence said. "Institutions are about shaping society in the idea of what the public good should be. Politically, it behooves us to do everything we can to make those institutions more reflective, and as reflective of the country as we can make it."

In countering, Loury stressed the importance of police in protecting the general public and the need to recognize the legitimacy of police officers. He cited the drop in the murder rate in New York

as an example of the success that police forces can have in effectively helping people.

"Police ought to be held accountable, they ought to face justice just like anybody else when they misstep, but they ought not to be constructed as the enemy," he said.

Several audience members asked questions about the differences between the civil rights movement of the 1960s and the current BLM movement. In response, both professors stated that the civil rights era was a drastically different time compared to the present day and age. According to Loury, the civil rights movement appealed to a moral charge that emphasized the collective "we" in America. Spence stated that present day social justice movements such as Occupy Wall Street and BLM cannot be viewed with the same lens that people view the civil rights movement with, because present day social justice movements are still in their beginnings.

BSU Vice President Tiffany Onyejika asked Loury what black youth are expected to do besides protest, when there is a systemic lack of opportu-

nity to express their opinions. Loury conceded that there is nothing inherently wrong with protesting, but believed that protests are not a viable, long-term method of enacting change.

"I don't see anything wrong with people getting organized and out into the streets to petition and make their points," he said. "I just want that energy to be channeled and guided with a conception of what the goals ultimately are. It is not enough to be outraged, angry and [to protest], one has to marry that to some broader political conception."

Spence and Loury both acknowledged the limitations of the BLM movement. For Spence, he felt that the BLM had not dealt with the economic problems that plague many people in the black community and are equally deadly. He cited lead poisoning as a leading health problem that can ultimately cause individuals' deaths. Yet, Spence appreciated the opportunity that the young activists have provided for the general public to implement real change.

"To a certain extent, I see us debating the role of action," Spence said. "Do we talk to the activists about

reforming themselves or take the moment they've provided and engage? At a certain moment, we should be engaging ourselves."

Spence also conceded that there are some benefits to All Lives Matter, in that it can appeal to a wider audience.

"I think BLM means something and should stay, but a good argument for the All Lives Matter movement is that [police brutality] happens enough to people who aren't black, outside of cities and inside cities, that if you have All Lives Matter you can more likely engage in the type of coalition building you need to deal with police."

Loury concluded his remarks by recognizing the role of morality and politics in creating a just society and re-emphasized the importance of fostering universal equality for all people.

"I'm not advocating that moralizing is a substitute for politics," he

said. "I still think there is a role for moral leadership in politics... I want to keep the goals in mind as racially transcendent and universalistic and not parochial and racially specific."

Students responded positively to the debate. Junior Liam Haviv appreciated that the conversation addressed concerns that students have with social movements.

"I think that our whole generation has put the movements we really care about into very distilled forms that sometimes miss the ultimate goal," he said. "When we put our anger and frustration... into 140 character tweets and hashtags, it takes away from so much of what we're trying to say. Both of [the professors] were looking for a bigger goal, a bigger product, from BLM."



IVANA SU/PHOTOGRAPHY EDITOR

Lester Spence is a tenured professor at Hopkins.

## Students choose service over getaways for break

By MORGAN OME

For The News-Letter

With spring break just around the corner, many Hopkins students are looking forward to a week of fun and relaxation at home or traveling to a sunny location with friends. Others have chosen to spend their spring break here in Baltimore serving the community through JHU's Alternative Breaks Program.

This year, the Center for Social Concern (CSC) is offering two programs to teach students about important issues affecting Baltimore: food justice and community development. Eighteen Hopkins students have signed up to participate in the student-led programs and will spend the week immersing themselves in service.

Junior Ezinne Ogbonna and freshman Osiris Mancera will be leading the Community Development Program. Both Ogbonna and Mancera had previously participated in CSC initiatives, the Community Impact Internships Program (CIIP) and Pre-Orientation, respectively, and wanted to become more involved with service work and community outreach. They believe that learning about Baltimore is essential for students at Hopkins.

"I think that what a lot of people tend to forget, especially being here at Hopkins and being very focused on academics, is that [they] live in Baltimore," Mancera said. "This is one of the best cities to just get out there and learn so many different things."

Ogbonna echoed those sentiments and stressed the importance of knowing the people and problems that affect the Baltimore community.

"Since we're Hopkins students, it's important to have a stake in the general community, the city that we live in," she said.

Ogbonna and Mancera organized various ac-

tivities for the Alternative Break program. For example, they will have work-shops and screenings to educate students about the importance of community development. They also will volunteer with Habitat for Humanity; the soup kitchen known as Paul's Place; Second Chance, an organization that provides work and rehabilitation for former inmates; and various organizations in Washington, D.C.

The purpose of these experiences is to introduce students to the topic and help them understand it in depth.

"We want to get participants thinking about how service and being part of a community isn't a one-time thing — it's something you can implement into your life," Mancera said.

Later in the week, the

Community Development group will join forces with the Food Justice group to conduct the Modified Community Food Experience Simulation, in which they simulate what the process of buying food is like for people with difficult life circumstances, such as having an illness, low-income or many family members to provide for. The purpose of the simulation is not only to demonstrate the complicated task of purchasing food for Baltimoreans, but also show students that the topics of community development and food justice are not mutually exclusive.

Sophomores Navya Ravoori and Anjie Ge will be leading the Food Justice program. Ravoori became interested in food justice after learning about the topic in her classes. She said that not many people understand what food justice is, and it is therefore important for students to learn about how the issue affects individuals and communities.

"Food justice is the right to access to healthy and affordable food," she said. "The big thing when you think about communities like Baltimore and other

urban communities, is food deserts. A lot of the areas in Baltimore don't necessarily have supermarkets... with healthy and fresh food available."

Ravoori explained that since supermarkets are not always easily accessible, many Baltimoreans shop at corner stores and take-out places. However, sourcing the majority of one's food from those two places can lead to an array of health problems, such as Type II Diabetes, heart problems and other diseases. She also talked about the factors that contribute to the difficulties people have in accessing healthy food.

Lack of reliable transportation, limited stocking space in stores and restricted financial resources all play a part in a person's ability to have the best choices in their food.

Ravoori talked about the activities that she and Ge have developed for the week. Students will volunteer at Real Food farms, Movable Feast, a company that makes and delivers food to people with chronic illnesses, specifically HIV/AIDS, and the Maryland Food Bank. There will also be exercises to prompt students to think about the realities that many Baltimoreans face when trying to find their next meal. Ravoori emphasized that the goal of alternative break program is not to attempt to solve a problem within one week, but rather to catalyze a commitment to service and to encourage students to become more involved in the long-term.

"I think the biggest [problem] we face at Hopkins is not that students don't want to get involved in the community, but they perceive limitations on how they can get involved," she said.

Assistant Director of the CSC Caroline Ouwerkerk emphasized that structure of the Alternative Breaks Program helps to foster more mindful and conscientious volun-

teers. She said that the Active Citizen Continuum, developed by national non-profit Break Away, is a key component to the CSC's philosophy of service.

Students progress from members who are not concerned with their role in social problems, to volunteers who may be well-meaning, but are not well-educated about the issues, to conscientious citizens who are concerned with discovering underlying problems, to active citizens who believe the community is a priority in their lives.

Ouwerkerk and the CSC work to teach students extensively about the social justice issues behind the service in order to help them understand the circumstances that create the problems. They also incorporate discussions and reflection into the Alternative Breaks program.

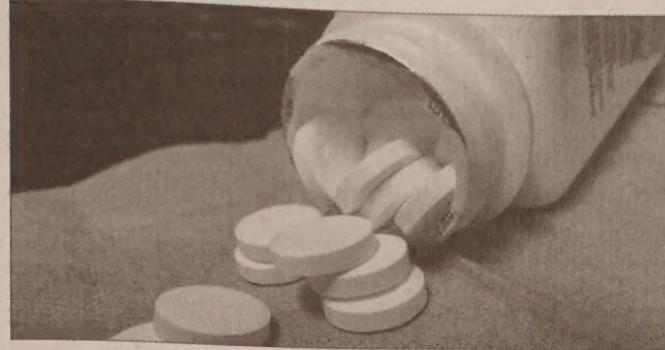
"If you go do service but don't ever process or talk about it, you might end up reinforcing negative stereotypes," she said. "You don't get the chance to make meaning from your lived experience, and that is a tremendous part of the learning process."

She explained that while the alternative breaks movement is present at many universities across the country, Hopkins stands out.

The idea behind an alternative break is that it's an immersive experiential learning opportunity for a small group of students to focus on a particular social justice issue for a sustained, intense period of time," Ouwerkerk said. "Most other [universities] do alternative breaks differently than we do. They tend to send their students away from the location of the institution... Hopkins is unique because we do all of our trips in Baltimore city. It is a reflection of the Hopkins commitment to focus on the community of which we are a part."

## NEWS &amp; FEATURES

# Experts discuss high prescription drug prices



COURTESY OF JACQUI NEBER

The high price of prescription drugs has prevented some low-income patients from using them.

By PETER JI  
Staff Writer

Public health experts discussed the issue of high prescription drug prices in the U.S. at the event "Prescription Drug Pricing: New Solutions" on Tuesday in Sheldon Hall at the Bloomberg School of Public Health. The talk was part of a series of five seminars held to mark the school's centennial anniversary. It included representatives from the government, public health professors and pharmaceutical companies.

According to the co-director of the Center for Drug Safety and Effectiveness, Caleb Alexander, the U.S. spends more on prescription drugs than any other country, spending over \$400 billion and increasing at eight percent annually.

High drug prices prohibit low-income Americans from receiving more expensive treatments. All of the speakers agreed that the healthcare industry needs solutions that balance profit and innovation with drug access and affordability for consumers. The discussion focused on how to reform current practices of drug pricing to provide the maximal benefit to the consumer.

The market for new drugs and biologics, drugs produced by biological sources, is responsible for most of the increases in drug prices, said former U.S. Representative and former Chairman of the House Oversight Committee Henry Waxman, who is currently a Centennial Policy Scholar at the School of Public Health. He began the event by answering a series of questions given by physician and health policy historian Jeremy Greene.

Waxman tackled problems with drug prices in the 1980s and helped to pass the Orphan Drug Act of 1983, which encourages drug companies to develop cures for rare diseases, and the Drug Price Competition and Patent Term Restoration Act, or the Hatch-Waxman Act of 1984, which streamlined the procedure for placing a generic drug on the market. He also played an important role in passing the Affordable Care Act (ACA) of 2010.

He asserted that Hatch-Waxman, a bipartisan effort, prevented companies from monopolizing new drugs and allowed for more generic alternatives to go onto market, which lowered the prices for consumers.

"Prior to that law, for generic to be approved, it had to go to the FDA and go through the tests of safety and efficacy as if it were a brand-new drug. We did not have a way for generics to be approved quickly. The brand-name drugs, when efficacy was attached to the requirement for approval, the company had to spend a lot more money during the approval of the

drug. They argued they were not able to benefit off of their patent," he said.

But new problems are arising today. Waxman noted that the prices of new drugs that provide breakthrough treatments are too high. The fraction of biologics in the drug markets is increasing. For example, Opdivo, which treats melanoma, costs \$150,000 per year. Orkambi, which treats cystic fibrosis, costs \$259,000 per year.

"Eighty percent of drugs in this country are generic, and [Hatch-Waxman] has been a huge break for those consumers," he said, "but the high prices are in the biologic drugs and in other places where pharma has been very clever in seeing a new direction to take."

Waxman noted that high drug prices are not desirable from a public policy standpoint either. His view was supported by experts from major government healthcare programs, including Deputy Administrator and Director of the Center for Medicare at the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) Sean Cavanaugh. Medicare, the healthcare program for the elderly and disabled, pays for prescription drugs through a roughly \$60 billion plan called Part D.

Cavanaugh compared Part D with a less-discussed plan known as Part B, which covers drugs administered by physicians in the hospital. Part B costs \$22 billion in comparison, although its costs have doubled since 2007, according to Cavanaugh. However, he noted that it is much less expensive than Part D because of a newly implemented bundled drug payment model that holds providers accountable for patient outcomes.

This change was a result of the Bundled Payments for Care Improvement (BPCI) initiative of the ACA. It has taken the place of fee-for-service, which has been criticized for rewarding providers based on quantity, not quality of care.

"We pay for prescription drugs in our hospital costs through a bundle that most people don't hear about it," Cavanaugh said of BPCI. "A lot of the problems aren't there because providers are close to the providing of care, and they can make good decisions on drugs."

The government now has a greater role in managing the high price of drugs in Part B, but it has no negotiating power with companies over the self-administered drugs that are covered in Part D. Waxman expressed regret over this fact earlier.

"The Republicans devised a Part D to pay for prescription drugs. The unique way they devised was that private pharmaceutical companies would decide the prices, and they wrote it in there that government cannot decide the prices," he said.

Currently, Part B reimburses doctors based on

what they simply choose to prescribe. Cavanaugh emphasized that in order to ensure that beneficiaries of the program receive the best quality of care, the healthcare sector

needs more incentives to focus on outcomes rather than reimbursements from Medicare.

The value-based approach to reducing drug costs has also been tested through Medicaid, the state-run health coverage programs for low-income Americans. States can restrict the amount of coverage served in order to deal with high drug prices and gain negotiating power with drug companies. States are reimbursed for the money they spend on drugs, which is not the case for Medicare.

According to John Coster, Director of the Division of Pharmacy Center for Medicaid and Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) Services, Medicaid used to suffer from high drug costs, but this was resolved through the Medicaid Drug Rebate Program.

"We worked on a drug rebate program back in 1990, which requires drug manufacturers to pay a rebate back to states for drugs dispensed to Medicaid patients," he said. "That happens for all drugs and that program has brought in billion dollars for the states. It's good public policy as usual."

Coster believes that the success of statutory rebates can be extended to Medicare. However, he noted that states still struggle with the high cost of newly launched drugs.

"Back when the first anti-retroviral drugs entered the market, the states had a shell shock. If we treated everybody with [Hepatitis C Virus], we couldn't treat anybody else with any other condition. While some say [Medicaid] shouldn't pay for it, others said it would reduce the costs of care down the road from Hep C," he said.

Coster and Cavanaugh agreed that implementing a value-based approach to drug payments faces several regulatory challenges. Government healthcare programs in other countries consider the cost-effectiveness of drugs when designing their plans. But Congress prohibits the Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Institute, which was created by the ACA and advises Medicare on treatment options, from considering cost-effectiveness in its metrics.

"There's no one overseeing whether physicians are choosing the most effective drugs, and patients aren't considering lower-step options for care. We want physicians to focus on outcomes rather than reimbursements," Cavanaugh said.

Associate Dean for Public Health Practice and Training Joshua Sharfstein

said that the public and private sector can work together to increase access to improve conditions. While the discussion focused on drug pricing, he wanted to consider the health of the general public as well. He believes that focusing on improving access will lead to lower drug prices.

He cited the Center for Disease Control's (CDC) Vaccines for Children program, in which the federal government negotiated with vaccine makers to lower prices. But by promoting vaccination, the government gave the companies a captive market.

"You take a step back and you see a vicious circle. High prices mean a restriction to access, which can stimulate a higher price. If it's an important public health drug, then it's particularly bad for the public because very few of the people who need it get it," he said.

Alexander summarized 48 policy proposals from a recent report he co-authored entitled "Reducing Prescription Drug Spending: A Review of Policy Options." It focused on five main areas: reforming the patent system, encouraging research, altering pharmaceutical regulation, decreasing market demand and developing a new drug pricing model.

Many of the experts said that the first step to lowering cost is to gather more information about the role that drug pricing plays in the market and in R&D.

According to Alexander, hospitals and physicians do not consider the cost-effectiveness of various therapies. He called for greater transparency from companies to disclose their R&D expenditures, since it is argued that price reductions will reduce R&D.

If experts can better deduce the true value of drugs, prices won't be so artificial, he noted.

"Drug pricing does not follow usual economic behavior. Price does not vary with dose, it has inelastic demand, prices may change with little correlation in input costs, and there exists information asymmetry between pharma and consumers," he said.

Antonio Trujillo, associate professor of International Health at Bloomberg, used an analogy to demonstrate fair drug pricing.

"Is it fair to raise significantly the price of snow shovels during a snowstorm? Some would argue yes, it's the market at work. Someone will come up with a better way to shovel snow. Some would argue that it is price gouging because there is only one place to buy shovels," he said.

James Millar of GlaxoSmithKline, a British pharmaceutical company, said that they have attempted to improve transparency and control of drug prices by disclosing outcomes for drug trials, not paying physicians for promotions and pricing launch medicines at a lower amount.

"We think we've found the right balance," he said. "We believe that innovators should be able to be in a profit, but on the other hand, patients should be benefited."

# SARU hosts workshop on hookup culture

By KAREN SHENG  
Staff Writer

to want casual sex all the time, and they are expected to be easy to please.

There was a popcorn-style discussion about unrealistic and toxic expectations for cis heterosexual men, cis heterosexual women, gender nonconforming individuals, trans\* individuals and lesbian, gay, bisexual and queer people, as well as about the origins of those problematic attitudes.

Some of the issues that participants brought up included the fetishization of lesbians and queer women for men's consumption, the pressure to conform to the gender binary, the hierarchy of masculinities, the unrealistic double standard for women to be both virginal and sexually experienced and the common misconceptions concerning bisexuality.

Sophomore Su Ataman said that this component was her favorite part of the workshop.

"I thought it was really interesting to meet new people and to talk to people about viewpoints they had," she said.

The presentation also discussed how hookup culture differs between different demographics, such as for black students versus white students and working class students versus middle class students. Much of the research and ideas about hookup culture are based on "white, wealthy, heterosexual, able-bodied and conventionally attractive" students.

The workshop kicked off with a four corners game as an ice-breaker where participants moved to different corners of the room based on whether they strongly agreed, agreed, disagreed or strongly disagreed with statements like "If someone is willing to make out, then it's no big deal that the person they're making out with is pushing for sex" and "Hooking up with someone is no big deal if there are no strings attached."

Powerful and Hobbs explained why hookup culture is problematic, especially "Netflix and chill," which can be considered the "catch phrase for hookup culture." Participants discussed how the concept is heteronormative and focuses on physical pleasure without necessarily including emotional bonding or long-term commitment, with its ambiguity and humorous nature creating negative repercussions.

"We have some ideas for next year, but we're not sure. [We] feel that this conversation is really important and [BWB is] really able to provide this information in a way that's really engaging and I feel like [is] relevant to everyone in the audience," she said. "It's kind of rare; when you talk about consent, people feel like they're lectured to."

Fei emphasized that hookup culture should not be a discussion limited to certain groups at Hopkins.

"I think they have a lot of topics that are relevant to other student groups. I mean, obviously I can't be like, 'You know, you guys have to bring this group!' but we thought it was really successful and it would probably work for topics that aren't necessary related to sexual assault."

The next session will be "Addressing Sexism Using an Anti-Oppression and Intersectional Framework" on April 20.

## NEWS &amp; FEATURES

# White House official talks gender bias



NASA VIA FLICKR/CC BY-NC-ND 2.0

Handelsman explained that sexism can be an unconscious act.

WHITE HOUSE, FROM A1  
role of bias in the hiring  
and treatment of female  
workers.

One of the studies  
she presented looked at  
wage gaps between male  
and female workers and  
found that employers of  
all ages are susceptible  
to this wage gap.

"They found again that  
there was a [wage] gap  
in the 29 years old and  
younger evaluator group.  
Instead of an 18 percent  
gap [found in the all ages  
group], they found a 26  
percent gap in the wages  
between men and women.  
So not only is it not getting  
better, there's a little bit of  
evidence here that it is get-  
ting worse," Handelsman  
said. "If you do the math,  
the accumulated loss of  
income turns into a very  
large amount of dollars."

Handelsman also re-  
ferred to multiple ex-  
periments in which an  
identical résumé is given  
to a group of employers.  
The only distinction be-  
tween these résumés was

that some of them had a  
female name at top and  
some had a male name.

"When asked whether  
they would hire this per-  
son or not, in every study  
in a four decade period,  
every evaluator was  
more likely to hire the  
individual if there was  
a male's name on the ap-  
plication," Handelsman  
said.

From these studies,  
she continuously empha-  
sized how these results  
came from unconscious  
bias and that employers  
are not actively discrim-  
inating against women.

"They say they just  
that they want the person  
with the best experience  
and the best credentials  
and the sex is irrelevant  
in hiring and of course  
they say that they are  
fair. This suggests that  
this is not an explicit  
bias," Handelsman said.  
"They are not saying  
'Women do not belong  
in the workplace' or  
'Women cannot do that  
job,' instead this is some-

thing much more subtle  
and this is something we  
call implicit bias or sub-  
conscious bias. So when  
you tell people that kind  
of bias, they are typically  
appalled. These are not  
racist or sexist people.  
These are people who are  
applying stereotypes. It  
is an unintended conse-  
quence of living in a so-  
ciety that we live in."

She also noted even  
female employers demon-  
strated these sorts of  
unconscious biases.

"Every study shows  
that the evaluator's sex  
was not a factor in the  
decision and the same  
was true in the matters  
of race. We do not see  
a gender difference be-  
tween evaluators," Handelsman  
said. "That said, this is something we all  
do. Women are not doing  
this to other women, men  
are not doing this to  
other women consciously  
or intentionally."

After going through  
these studies, Handels-  
man recommended sev-  
eral methods to help  
employers avoid demon-  
strating unconscious  
biases. For example, em-  
ployers could list criteria  
they want to see in ap-  
plicants prior to reading  
résumés or giving out  
interviews.

"They found that in  
most cases [of listing  
out criteria beforehand],  
they were able to abolish  
biases if not completely,  
then close to it," Handelsman  
said. "So that says we can do it respon-  
sibly and hold ourselves  
to it."

accountable if we think  
ahead of time, without a  
CV, without a candidate,  
male or female or any  
other group in front of  
us. We can think about  
the abstract fairly and  
say these are the crite-  
ria then we line up the  
candidates' qualities to  
those criteria."

Hopkins students re-  
sponded positively to  
Handelsman's ideas and  
noted how her points  
were important to ac-  
knowledge.

"I think it is very im-  
portant to have such is-  
sues raised and made  
public," Abdul Moham-  
med, a fifth year mas-  
ter's student, said. "As  
you know, many biases  
are subconscious and  
we don't really think  
about it, so it's really  
important for us to re-  
ally mention it and talk  
about it more in public  
so we can accept that  
this is happening."

Tanvi Shroff, a second  
year graduate student,  
echoed this sentiment  
and added that she was  
pleased to see several  
men in the audience.

"I have attended a lot  
of these gender equity  
talks in our department.  
I take this issue pretty  
seriously so I was glad  
that Jo Handelsman was  
able to come and talk  
and give the presenta-  
tion," Shroff said. "I'm  
also glad that there was a  
lot of male audience here  
because it does not do  
much help if there were  
just a bunch of females at  
this talk."

## Porter compelled to testify against fellow BPD officers

By CATHERINE  
PALMER  
News & Features Editor

Baltimore Police Department (BPD) Officer William Porter will be compelled to testify against both Goodson and White with limited immunity, which Williams granted. Porter's attorneys then turned to the Court of Appeals, hoping it would overturn William's decision. The court instead ruled in favor of the prosecution on Thursday and upheld William's ruling.

The highest court in the state heard arguments last Thursday from prosecutors who petitioned for Porter to be forced to testify with limited immunity, and Porter's defense attorneys who argued that compelling Porter to testify will violate his Fifth Amendment right to not incriminate himself.

Porter was tried in December on the charges of manslaughter, assault, misconduct in office and reckless endangerment. Judge Williams declared a mistrial after a hung jury was called. Porter will be retried June 13.

Porter was the first officer to be tried so that he could testify against Officer Caesar Goodson, Jr., the driver of the van that transported Gray to the Western District police station, and Sergeant Alicia White without fear of self-incrimination.

According to Porter, he told both of them that Gray asked for medical attention. The prosecution said back in September that Porter was a "necessary and material" witness against Goodson and White.

After his mistrial, Porter pleaded the Fifth Amendment to avoid incriminating himself in testimony against Good-

son, whose trial was scheduled to start Jan. 6.

Prosecutors motioned for Porter to be compelled to testify against both Goodson and White with limited immunity, which Williams granted. Porter's attorneys then turned to the Court of Appeals, hoping it would overturn William's decision. The court instead ruled in favor of the prosecution on Thursday and upheld William's ruling.

Thursday's decision was also a major victory for the prosecution on a second front. At a hearing in January over which Williams presided, prosecutors motioned for Porter to be compelled to testify against Lieutenant Brian Rice and Officers Garrett Miller and Edward Nero.

"We tried to learn something from our experience in trying Officer Porter," Chief Deputy State's Attorney Michael Schatzow said at the hearing. "We think we have the right to change our mind, and we acknowledge we are changing our mind."

Schatzow told Williams that Porter could help shore up the reckless endangerment charges against Miller and Nero and the manslaughter and assault charges against Rice by testifying that Gray was not secured in the van and therefore was injured.

Williams did not agree that Porter's testimony would be necessary or relevant and stated that he believed prosecutors were simply trying to delay the start of the officer's trials in light of Porter's mistrial. The Court of Ap-

### BPD Officers' Court Dates:

#### Lieutenant Brian Rice

- Date: April 13
- Charges: manslaughter, assault, misconduct in office, reckless endangerment

#### Officer William Porter

- Date: June 13
- Charges: manslaughter, assault, misconduct in office, reckless endangerment

#### Officer Caesar Goodson, Jr.

- Date: TBD
- Charges: murder, manslaughter, assault, misconduct in office, reckless endangerment

#### Sergeant Alicia White

- Date: TBD
- Charges: manslaughter, assault, misconduct in office, reckless endangerment

#### Officer Garrett Miller

- Date: TBD
- Charges: assault, misconduct in office, reckless endangerment

#### Officer Edward Nero

- Date: TBD
- Charges: assault, misconduct in office, reckless endangerment

peals has overturned that decision Thursday.

During the appeals process, all five of the officers' court dates were postponed indefinitely. Rice, who was originally going to be the sixth and final officer tried will now be the second. His trial is set to begin on April 13, one day and

one year after Gray was arrested. The other four officers' court dates remain to be set.

Gray, 25, died from a severe spinal cord injury in April, one week after being arrested by the BPD officers. His death sparked more than a week of both peaceful and violent protests.

# Is the feminist movement inclusive?

## Reflections on women and race

By LAUREN  
VOGELSANG

Last week I became a feminist.

I had always considered myself a feminist in the barest of terms, but not until Office of Multicultural Affairs (OMA), SEED and Hopkins Feminists collaborated to create a discussion called Politically Incorrect: Where Feminism and Womanism Meet. After疯狂ly typing answers on my phone to the feminist survey filled out at the beginning of the meeting, listening to my peers speak about feminism and then talking with two feminists after the discussion ended, I decided to become a part of the feminist movement.

After beginning the survey, it suddenly became clear that I had no idea how to answer even the most basic questions like "Am I a feminist?" and "Should men be allowed to call themselves feminist or womanist?". Thankfully, Alizay Jalisi, a sophomore on the Hopkins Feminists executive board, began the discussion with the origins of feminism.

She said that the feminist movement first began in the 1830s as an appendage of the abolitionist movement. These first feminists later expanded the movement into two separate groups: The National Women's Suffrage Association (NWSA) and The American Women's Suffrage Association (AWSA).

The NWSA having refused to prioritize racial equality, excluded African American women from their movement in a political ploy to prevent the Southern states from denying white women's right to vote. Although this group eventually went on to lead the fight for the women's suffrage, it had consequently isolated itself from African American women feminists, who eventually created the AWSA, which was more racially inclusive than the first feminist group.

In the 1970s, the black feminist movement garnered a lot of attention under the guidance of its popular leaders, including bell hooks. However, it wasn't until Alice Walker first used the word womanist that African American women had officially established a separate but parallel movement to traditional white feminism.

Walker defined a womanist as "a black feminist or feminist of color... a woman who loves other women, sexually and/or nonsexually. Appreciates and prefers women's culture, women's emotional flexibility."

Beginning in the 1990s, the feminist movement had become more inclusive, but still today, the movement is not yet inclusive enough to merge with womanism into a single movement, as white women still continue to dominate the leadership positions of the feminist movement.

Following the history

lesson on the origins of both feminism and womanism, students began to express their opinions about various issues pertaining to the two movements: a men's role in the feminist community, how Latinos fit into feminism and womanism and whether it is possible for womanism and feminism to truly merge. Two of the most knowledgeable attendees included Jalisi and Cynthia Román, one of OMA's official coordinators of the event.

Following the discussion, I asked Jalisi to define feminism because before the event I was unable to come up with a definition. Her answer reminded me of the definition Alice Walker had assigned to womanism.

"When I think of feminism I think of a movement that is for people of color, people who do not identify with the gender binary or do, people who identify as queer, who are not necessarily able bodied in the way that we think of able bodied," she said. "When I think of feminism, I think of a sort of intersectional flavor of feminism."

And her deep involvement in the feminist cause, whether through Hopkins Feminists or attending events like Politically Incorrect should be no surprise because of her explanation of the freedom of joining such a movement to me.

"Feminism resonates with me because as woman of color, as someone who comes from a culture that is definitely patriarchal," she said. "It is liberating to me, it is freeing but at the same time it makes me question my other opinions as well."

Román, one of the event coordinators, who identifies not only as a feminist but also as a womanist, is particularly interested in and concerned about her position in the feminist movement as a Latina woman. Despite the struggles with Spanish translation her fellow Latina feminists and womanists from Baltimore face, she still rallies for the womanist.

"It comes from a place of inclusion," she said.

Her first encounter with feminism came in high school when her friends would ask her why she hated men. She would reply that she did not hate men, but she did expect gender equality, refusing to participate in the Latino machismo culture.

Román later graduated from Notre Dame of Maryland University with a degree in women's studies. Her fascination with equal rights for minority women has continued in her work at OMA and is apparent in the female empowerment symbol she has tattooed on her forearm.

After attending the event and speaking with the Jalisi and Román, I was convinced to become a feminist. After learning about how feminism includes the rights of minorities and queers and the underrepresented, I now understand why many people call themselves feminists.

## NEWS &amp; FEATURES

# Students compare religion, science in discussion

**DIALECTIC, FROM A1**  
of science," Jalisi wrote in an email to *The News-Letter*. "The Hopkins Dialectic is a new journal on Christian thought on campus, and as a forum for science in society, there was no better way for *The Triple Helix* to promote dialogue on the seemingly conflicting nature of science and religion than to co-host a discussion."

Johnson started off the discussion by asking the participants about what science and religion meant to them and if they believed that the two areas were different from faith and reason.

Freshman Vrshank Ravi spoke about the ways that he saw his own culture and religion deal with science and religion.

"I'm personally a Hindu, a non-Christian... At least back home [in India] I see a very different dichotomy," Ravi said. "You see people who are very religious but at the same time are also mostly engineers or doctors. At the same time every morning I see them praying to God or doing some ritual, and then they go about their job like it's completely separate... They say they're doing the ritual because it gives them some sort of mental peace."

Ravi then posed the question of whether science and religion can co-exist. Sophomore Alex Rivera believes that the two go hand in hand.

"I don't think that science could have happened without religion," Rivera said. "I think the basis of religion is believing in something greater than yourself, and in science we're essentially trying to answer the same question — where do we come from, who are we — except we're going about it with a more mathematical or systematic approach."

Rivera also believes



CINDY JIANG/PHOTOGRAPHY STAFF  
Students discussed their understandings of science and religion and its relationship to faith and reason.

that there is a crossover between history and theology.

"Religion has influenced so much of history," Rivera said. "Up until a certain point in history they were almost the same thing. Europe was extremely Christian. You can't study one without studying the other."

Jalisi asked attendees if they believe faith and science are equally important in understanding truths that are fundamental to the universe. Sophomore Jesse Rines spoke about how studying science at Hopkins has positively impacted his own faith.

"On a personal level I'm a biomedical engineering student here. For me, studying science only deepens my faith because I just get more and more amazed by the creation that has been laid out for us," Rines said. "That's a personal, spiritual thought and not everyone has to agree with that, but that's how I experience the world. I can't imagine a world where science makes sense without God. Because if God exists, he created the laws of physics, he created the laws of the universe. And if that's true, he created the world that science seeks

to try to understand."

Johnson asked students how they believe science and religion have dealt with the evolution of human morality over the course of history. Johnson explained how science assumes that morality is something that evolved within society while religion argues that it can be taught through scripture.

Junior Jai Thakor believes that human morality is not something that is inherently biological or scientific.

"Morality doesn't evolve necessarily the same way that we do biologically," Thakor said. "Just because biologically we know that we adapt better to our environment, whereas [in] morality, when you look at what is right over the generations I think what is moral across the general population has been different and has changed according to the time period. So we haven't necessarily evolved into something better, but evolved in the sense that we have changed."

Overall, Johnson believes that Hopkins students should discuss both religion and science in the same context because it is integral to the diversity of opinion on campus.

"Regardless of one's background, placing yourself in environments in which your opinion is not the majority is so important. The college years are often the beginning of a difficult but rewarding process of discovering what you truly believe in, what world view you hold to be true," Johnson wrote.

"Part of this discovery necessitates challenging the beliefs you grew up with, views

about science and religion included. Often individuals, particularly those who identify as agnostic or atheist, imagine that the faith necessary for religion is incompatible with the scientific process. Personally, I wanted to discuss this topic because I don't think that incompatibility holds."

Jalisi agreed with Johnson's point of view, and felt that attempting to understand the different ways in which people look at the world through science and religion can better society.

"I think that in an industrialized, pluralist society such as that of the U.S., we regularly encounter people from different religious belief systems and walks of life and interpret innovation and scientific discovery very differently," Jalisi said. "Promoting dialogue about the myriad of perspectives that exist in our society might help us better understand each other and solve scientific problems that plague us as a society."

Johnson explained to *The News-Letter* that he would like to keep the journal itself Christian-based.

"It's not just a platform for all kinds of religious discussion... As an editor, I just won't feel comfortable editing pieces from other's perspectives. I have no idea or much less of an idea of where they're coming from," he said.

"And is their theology right? And it's just easier to communicate and coordinate with people within the groups that founded it."

However, Johnson said he would be open to occasionally featuring point-counterpoint style articles or articles discussing an issue through the lens of a non-Christian religion.

The *Dialectic* team plans to publish an issue once a semester going forward.

Johnson said he did consider the fact that Hopkins is a primarily science and technology based school when deciding whether to go forward with founding the *Dialectic*.

"[It] gave me reservations but also inspiration... Hopkins is very STEM-focused and because of that, not as many of these conversations happen all the time I think," Johnson said. "This is an explicit platform to foster that kind of dialogue both within Christian circles but also importantly outside of it, too. I think it's exciting to catalyze that kind of conversation... I think a great resource in college is the diversity of thought."

# Panel raises questions on women in religion

By EMMA ROALSVIG  
For *The News-Letter*

necessarily need saving," she said.

Danielle Kramer, a representative for the Jewish faith, discussed how notion of modesty in dress has affected the perception of the Jewish community.

"[A] big misconception within the Jewish community is that the way you dress is a barometer for how religious you are," she said. "I would walk down the street in pants and people would assume that I'm not so religious. I think that's a big issue, and I think it's important that would start more looking at people's actions and not just how they dress. People really emphasize this modesty

for women in a physical sense, when modesty is also a state of mind."

Afterward, the panel was asked how their faith informs their ideas and perceptions

of feminism.

Dikachi Osaji, a Catholic from Nigeria, said the idea that men and women are equals in religion.

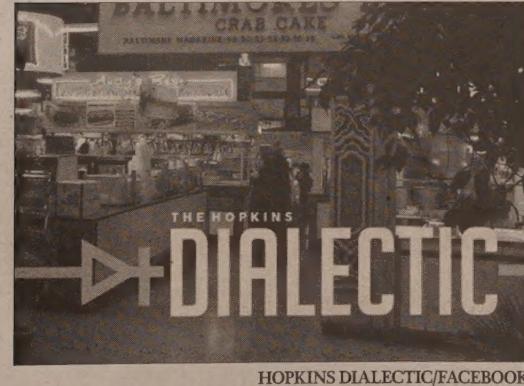
"In our culture, I'm Nigerian, girls across different tribes, are not seen as important and it unfortunately is still a thing today. Having three girls... my father is always asked, 'Well, you have three girls, how does that make you feel? You should want a son.' And he's like, 'No I'm blessed amongst women,'" Osaji said. "My father would always say 'No, my women, my girls are just as powerful, just as smart or just as strong or just as religious as your boys.' Both my parents made sure that we understood that we were important. We're important in God's eyes. We're important in their eyes. We're important in our society's eyes, no matter what anyone told us."

Muhammad Hudhud, a junior, attended this event because he is involved with the religious community on campus and wanted to learn about other faiths.

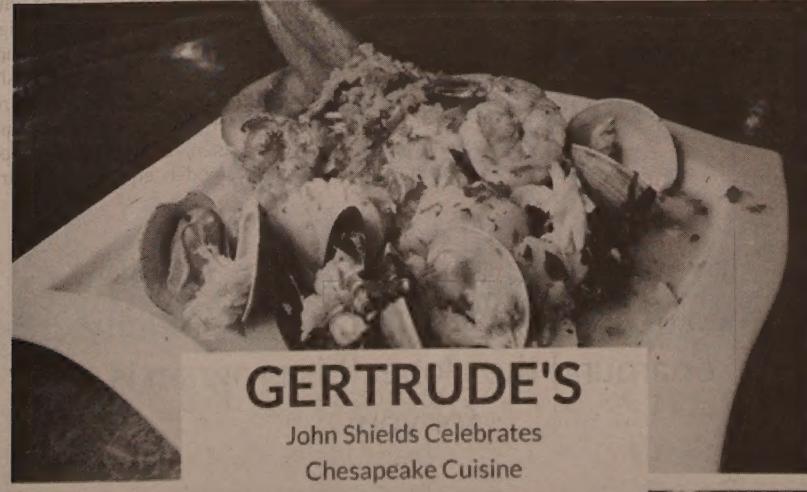
"It seemed like a really interesting event. I think on campus not enough of these events happen, so this is nice to see. As well as supporting my friends, some of them are on the panel today. I'm Muslim, first of all, and while I do know a lot of the tenets, the requirements for men and women, I'm not really familiar with those of other faiths."

Hammaad Shah, a junior, enjoyed the panel and the stories which women of different faiths shared.

"I attended a similar event last year, and I really enjoyed hearing about the specific stories that different people had to talk about — the religious traditions or cultural traditions, women who were important — and that was a pretty unique experience for me, to be exposed to that kind of culture," he said.



HOPKINS DIALECTIC/FACEBOOK  
The Hopkins Dialectic hopes to publish its first issue in April.



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## NEWS &amp; FEATURES

# Ezra Klein analyzes political polarization in 2016 election climate

**KLEIN, FROM A1**

Donald Trump has about three or four serious political endorsements, but a couple of weeks ago he had zero. Ted Cruz has yet to have single endorsement from the Senate because everyone in the U.S. Senate hates him."

Additionally, Klein also pointed out how there are ideological shifts occurring in the Democratic and Republican parties with both deviating farther from the political center.

"We are seeing the Democrats as a highly ideological party. And that is odd, actually."

— EZRA KLEIN,  
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF  
OF VOX

"We are seeing the Democrats as a highly ideological party. And that is odd, actually. We have political studies showing that Democrats were more of a collection of interest groups as opposed to Republicans, which are seen as a more philosophical and ideological party," Klein said. "As it has happened, the Democratic party has been running a primary in which the core fight is how liberal are the two candidates. Both of them are running over each other trying to show that they have a greater

sense of progressivism."

Republican voters, according to Klein, are not ideological at all.

"They could not give a s\*\*t as to what their frontrunner [Trump] says. He can say anything," Klein said. "I mean for a long time the view has been that the Republican Party has been seen as an ideologically

Donald Trump and Bernie Sanders are showing that it isn't true."

In addition to his talk, there was a lengthy question and answer portion during which members of the audience asked about Klein's opinion of the current political and media landscape. He discussed the psychology of authoritarianism in voting behavior, whether this election year is an aberration or a new norm and the current Supreme Court vacancy crisis.

Klein said he is fearful of a Donald Trump presidency.

"What does a nuclear winter look like? So, the answer is nobody knows, and I think chief among the 'nobody knows' is Donald Trump. I think Donald Trump has the first idea as to what a Donald Trump presidency might look like. That guy won a bunch of primaries the other night and talked about his steaks. Like not the stakes in the election, but how he had a steak company," Klein said.

Trump is a political anomaly for Klein.

"To be dead serious about this, I think Donald Trump is a candidate with a very high possibility of variance in both directions," Klein said. "Maybe he comes in and turns out to be more moderate than a lot

of the other Republicans. I think that is the sort of optimistic scenario. I think the pessimistic scenario is really dangerous. I think that he has the personality of a strongman. I think that he has a demagogue's instinct for the worst voices in the crowd. I've written about this, but I think the really dangerous thing about Donald Trump is that I have never seen a politician before without a sense of shame."

Freshman Emma Lee enjoyed Klein's humor.

"I really liked him because he was super articulate, and I feel like he's really well informed and practiced in journalism,"

Lee said. "His humor made it a lot easier to connect to the information he was pulling."

Sophomore Marisa Brand, secretary of the Hopkins College Republicans, said she enjoyed the talk despite her political differences with Klein.

"I liked him. He was a very engaging speaker," Brand said. "I feel like he oversimplified a lot of the issues, but in general I really liked it. I was worried that it was going to be too liberal but a lot of his things were a lot more theoretical, so I thought it was very interesting."

Sophomore Hansel Romero of FAS said he enjoyed having Klein's journalistic expertise at

Hopkins, and he saw the event as a success for FAS.

"I thought it was incredibly informative and incredibly relevant to have somebody such as him, an expert in the political field, to express his opinions," Romero said. "It was a success. We expected a lower turnout than usual because we know it's a very tough week for a lot of people, midterms and such, but we were very happy with the turnout that we received. We thought that the amount of questions that people had was testament to how people responded to his coming here and how interested people were in what he had to say."

## Errata: Mar. 9 Edition

In the March 2, 2016 edition of *The News-Letter*, in the article titled "Johns Hopkins' birthplace faces demolition" Karen Hansen, Class of 1981, was mistakenly referred to as Kristen Hansen, Class of 1989. Additionally, Polm Companies was mistakenly referred to as the developer of the Spring Arbor project.

The article titled "Yearbook comes to an end after 126 years" stated that yearbooks cost over \$100 instead of \$75. Also, 228 yearbooks, not "300 or so" yearbooks, were sold in 2015.

In the article titled "Leap Year Gala swings the night away" the quote beginning with "I've been to Mobtown Ballroom a couple of times..." was said by Matthias Gompers, not Sarah Crum.

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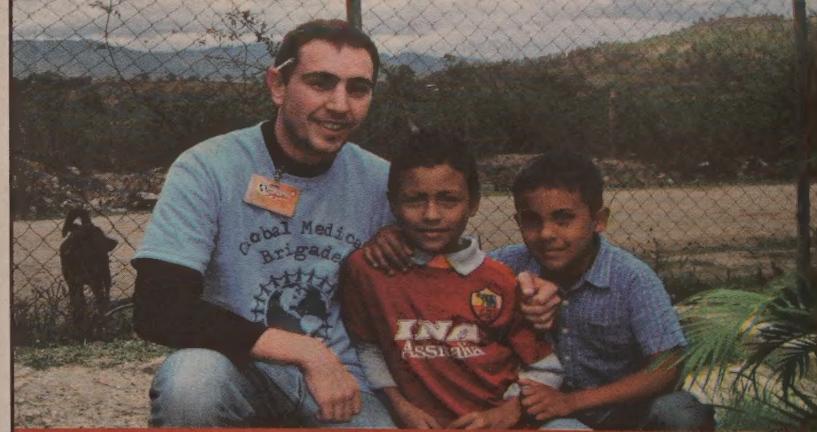
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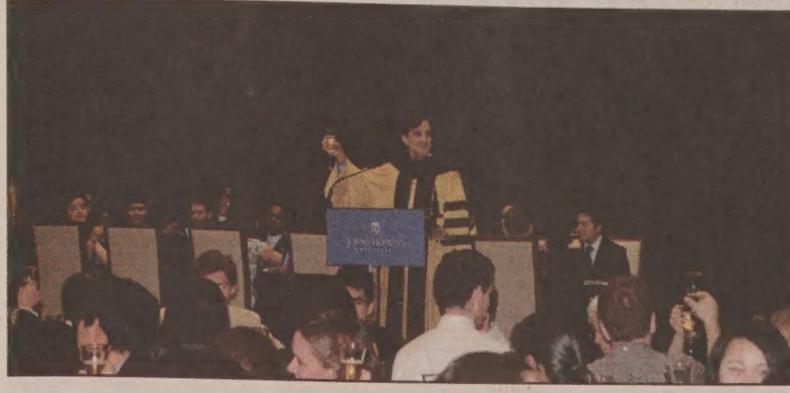
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## NEWS &amp; FEATURES

# Seventh annual High Table dinner connects freshmen, faculty

CINDY JIANG/PHOTOGRAPHY STAFF  
University President Ronald J. Daniels spoke at this year's High Table dinner in front of faculty and freshmen.By ALEXA SCHWARTZ  
For The News-Letter

The seventh annual High Table dinner was held on Monday at the Ralph S. O'Connor Recreation Center. It offered an opportunity for freshmen and faculty to share a meal together and interact outside of the typical classroom setting. More than 70 professors intermixed with the Class of 2019 for a unique dining experience.

The dinner was served at long, narrow tables where students and faculty ate together. The basketball court was turned into a banquet hall replete with nice tablecloths and silverware. The attendees were served three-course meals that culminated in chocolate mousse.

Freshman Tolu Ajayi enjoyed the occasion to have regular conversations with a professor and feel as though they were just regular people. He enjoyed learning more

about their lives outside of Hopkins.

"None of us had any majors related to what he taught," Ajayi said. "He was less of a professor in a position of authority and more like someone we just had dinner with. It was his first time too. He was in the same situation. He told us a story about how he got a concussion.... He was playing basketball with other professors, then someone just whammed him straight in the face. They have actual lives other than just teaching us. It was nice."

Freshman Jacob Kim, who spoke with another professor, agreed with Ajayi's opinion. He thought that it was a good experience to talk to someone about what being a Ph.D. student was like, and it gave him another perspective about life at Hopkins.

"The professor was very nice... She's a [computer science] Ph.D.," he

said. "We talked until the end. We actually stayed a bit overtime... [We discussed] what it was like as an undergraduate. She's been in Baltimore for four years."

Freshman Calix Matos Salles enjoyed talking to Robert Barbera, who teaches Elements of Macroeconomics but with whom he has never spo-

ken before.

"It was really cool talking to him. We had really good talks about actual economics and the real world. And the dinner was really good," Salles said. "It was fun."

Freshmen attendees agreed that it was worthwhile talking to faculty that they would not have met otherwise as well as being able to see professors as normal people that have their own lives and interesting things to say outside of class and their research interests. They also enjoyed the meal catered by Bon Appétit, which was more sophisticated than the usual fare.

"I really liked the chocolate mousse," freshman Paul Vallejo said.

Freshman Class Senator Jenn Baron said she enjoyed being a part of the planning team for the High Table dinner and

helping the event come to fruition.

"The event is mainly done by the staff, but what we get to help out with is the food tasting," Baron said. "And we also help with the marketing."

Freshman Sam Lenner said that she wished she had more in common with the professors that she dined with.

"It was a cool that Hopkins put on an event like that, but by chance I ended up near two professors with whom I didn't have a lot in common so it was hard to engage with them," she said.

Freshman Aaron Pultman praised faculty-student interaction.

"High Table was a truly enriching experience," he said. "It allowed me to take a break from day-to-day life and interact with my peers and professors in a beautiful and enjoyable environment."

## Hopkins' Dr. Q to be profiled in movie

By ABBY BIESMAN  
News & Features Editor

Brad Pitt's production company Plan B Entertainment and Disney are collaborating in a film project about Alfredo Quiñones-Hinojosa, also known as Dr. Q, the director of the Brain Tumor Surgery Program at the Johns Hopkins Bayview Medical Center.

Project development began in 2007 after the producers heard about Dr. Q through a radio broadcast.

Born in Mexico, Quiñones-Hinojosa entered the U.S. in 1987 at 19. To pay for his education at San Joaquin Delta College, he sought work opportunities painting, welding and picking cotton.

He went on to earn his medical degree from Harvard Medical School and later completed his training in general surgery and neurosurgery at the University of California, San Francisco. In 2005, he started practicing at Hopkins.

In 2011, he published an autobiography, *Becoming Dr. Q: My Journey from Migrant Farm Worker to Brain Surgeon*, which received the International Latino Book Award in 2012.

He was the commencement speaker at Hopkins in 2013.

CINDY JIANG/PHOTOGRAPHY STAFF  
Freshmen interacted with various faculty members at the annual High Table dinner at the Rec Center.

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## HIP HOP

The next generation of COLUMNS is here. This is the place for restaurants, fashion, fitness, cooking, relationships and lifestyle...

# A day in my life: spring break edition



Gillian Lelchuk  
Sophomore

**A**t least we've reached the end — well the middle of this \$60,000-a-year torment we call Hopkins. We get a week-long reprieve from papers, midterms and all of our obligations. How are you planning to spend your spring break?

Maybe you're going to Cabo or Miami or somewhere equal parts tropical and topical. Or maybe you're going skiing in Maine or a mountainous region where people ski (I don't know how that works — I'm from California). Or maybe you're just going home to spend some time with the fam and your dogs and get some much-needed relaxation time (read: Netflix).

I'm in that last camp. I'm headed home to completely veg out and watch TV and go to the dog park. Sidebar: My dogs are literally the cutest dogs ever — you can follow my Aussie pup Neo on Instagram: @neotheminiaussie.

Back to the point, this spring break is all about catching up for me. I've fallen behind on my sleep, on like eight TV shows and, let's be real, on my reading for class. A week off from school is exactly what I need to catch up on all of that. Here's what I plan on doing every day while I'm home:

**10:30 a.m.** Roll out of bed and head to the kitchen to grab breakfast, probably a chocolate chip pancake or two because this is spring break and I am indulging.

**11:00 a.m.** Exercise? This one is still under consideration and is dependent on how many pancakes I have consumed.

**12:00 p.m.** Watch one episode of something.

Possibilities include *iZombie*, *The Flash*, *Reign*, *Teen Wolf* or *How to Get Away with Murder*. Yes I know, my taste in television is diverse and at times questionable.

**12:42 p.m.** Request that my mother drive me to the center of suburbia, the shopping center.

**12:53 p.m.** Arrive at the shopping center. Eat lunch at whichever Americanized ethnic food restaurant I want that day.

**1:15 p.m.** Go to Starbucks. Plant myself in a good location with a comfortable chair and plenty of natural sunlight. Begin catching up on readings for class or readings for fun.

**3:00 p.m.** Be picked up by Mom, Gracie and Neo (the dogs). Go to the dog park. Swoon over all the other dogs. Throw tennis balls for Neo until my arm is ready to fall off.

**4:00 p.m.** Go home and watch like three episodes of TV probably.

**6:06 p.m.** Inquire about dinner, recall that Dad won't be home until probably 7:30 p.m. and watch two more episodes.

**7:30 p.m.** Dad gets home. Ask about dinner again.

**8:00 p.m.** Finally eat dinner. Wish for the independence of living alone when I choose my own meal times. Be grateful that I don't need to cook or buy groceries at home.

**8:30 p.m.** Watch more TV but now with the family. Probably *House Hunters* or if we're lucky, *Fixer Upper*.

**10:00 p.m.** The family and the dogs retire, so I'll retreat to my bedroom to watch another few episodes.

**12:06 a.m.** Sleep. Have a weird dream probably about missing a test for a class I'm not taking, being late to an apartment showing or falling into the sky because gravity has reversed.

Hopefully after a seven-day cycle of this routine, I will be refreshed, revitalized and capable of returning to the stressful hellhole that we affectionately call Hopkins.

That feeling of disappointment when your phone buzzes and it's that assignment you sent yourself 2 seconds ago

16 HOURS

0 REPLIES

SHARE

## What's the Word? This Week on Yik Yak

51

Check back  
each week to  
see what the  
anonymous  
students of  
Hopkins have  
to say.

76

When you make fun of ur roommate for not knowing what a pastel color is and then realize he is color blind and can't tell you what red is.

18 HOURS

3 REPLIES

SHARE

How many miles have my fingers scrolled?

15 HOURS

0 REPLIES

SHARE

Pulled an all-day today. It was rough

16 HOURS

1 REPLY

SHARE



HARRY W. FREES/WIKIMEDIA COMMONS

Two cats carry a line of dead fish. Frees actually staged the kittens with the props and costumes.



Rollin Hu  
Irrelevant History

**C**ats are kind of a big thing on the Internet. There is an abundance of memes of cats doing various things with terrible grammar and spelling asking to "haz a cheezburger." There is also "Grumpy Cat" who had earned a "low six figure" amount of dollars by May 2013 and authored a *New York Times* best-seller. Through the ingenuity of YouTube auto-play, I have been able to watch a seemingly endless stream of cat videos uninterrupted.

Our fascination with these felicitous felines is a defining aspect of our time. Future historians will look back upon this time period and write theses and dissertations on the implications of this mad idolatry of cats in the peculiar years of the late 2000s and early 2010s.

Actually, no. The arrival of the Internet may be somewhat recent, but crazes about cats doing absurdly cute things are hardly new thanks to the life's work of Harry Whittier Frees.

Born in 1879 in Pennsylvania, Frees lived in a time where the first photograph ever taken was a mere half century ago.

Frees reportedly began his career in 1906 when he snapped a photo of a cat wearing a paper hat at a family birthday party. This picture was then turned into a postcard and was a huge success. Thus began Frees's lifelong career of taking pictures of kittens and other young animals in cute human-like positions and putting them in calendars, postcards, magazines and children's books.

As the popularity of Frees's photographs grew, there was growing suspicion that these pictures were inauthentic. Prior to the invention of Photoshop, people started saying that these animals were possibly sedated or even taxidermy models. But Frees was legit. He would coax these animals to stay still in human positions for a fifth of a second (which is how long his exposures were) using an inhuman amount of patience. Then about

two-thirds of the photos he took had to be discarded because taking photos in the early 1900s was a pretty unreliable process. The only help he ever received was from his housekeeper, Mrs. Annie Edelman, who sewed all the costumes.

In a 1937 *Life* magazine article describing his work, Frees said, "These unusual photographs of real animals were made possible only by patient, unfailing kindness of on the part of the photographer at all times."

One of the more interesting things Frees published with all of these pictures were children's books with backstories to the animal setups.

is forgotten. So please enjoy these photos that are from the archives of the Library of Congress. Although they were from the past and are more or less forgotten, as Alan Taylor of *The Atlantic* put it, "Their humor and appeal is timeless."



HARRY W. FREES/WIKIMEDIA COMMONS

A dog teaches three kittens how to spell and do basic addition. This is a real photograph with real animals.

18 HOURS

3 REPLIES

SHARE

SHARE

143

## HIP HOP

BUT ALSO observations, lists, thoughts, feelings, missed connections, haikus, confessions, furtive glances and of course, sex.

## The representation of food on television

Tara Abrishami  
Food for Thought

**D**r. Green: Why don't I order everyone the Mandarin chicken?

**Phoebe:** I don't eat meat.

**Dr. Green:** It's chicken!

**Phoebe:** Yeah well I don't eat that either.

As everyone familiar with *Friends* knows, being vegetarian is one of Phoebe Buffay's defining characteristics. Phoebe's food choices are more than just a passing trope and receive regular and at times extensive attention on the show. As just another Netflix watcher I laughed along with everyone else at all the vegetarian jokes and all of Phoebe's quirks regarding vegetarianism. But as a vegan I found myself wondering about the other moments: For instance when Phoebe explains she doesn't eat

meat to Rachel's dad at a restaurant or when she has to chase down a vegetarian pizza because all the delivered ones come with meat. These smaller moments are routine in the lives of people who don't eat meat so I wondered: How routine are they on TV and how are they portrayed?

According to a list compiled by the Animal Liberation Front, Spock from *Star Trek* was the first vegetarian regular on an American television show. *Star Trek* first aired in 1966. For my part I was surprised and impressed that a character as famous as Spock was vegetarian as early as the 1960s. (On the other hand Spock is an alien...)

According to the same list, 13 American TV shows that began airing between 1951 and 1993 contained mentions of vegetarianism or veganism. *Buffy the Vampire Slayer* was apparently the first show to use the word "vegan." From 1994 to 2000 there were 16 television shows containing mentions of vegetarianism or veganism, including *The Simpsons*. Fun fact: Paul McCartney guest-starred in the episode where Lisa Simpson becomes vegetarian on the condition that she stay

LAN BUI/CC BY-SA 2.0  
Lisa Kudrow played vegetarian Phoebe Buffay in the sitcom *Friends*.

vegetarian for the rest of the show!

Some criticism that I've seen about popular vegetarian characters on television is that they tend to be the butt of a lot of jokes. Vegetarianism is portrayed as extreme and unusual. Using the example I'm most familiar with: Not only is Phoebe vegetarian but she also has a lot of bizarre quirks, like believing that a cat contains the spirit of her deceased mother. Her character is defined by her eccentricity and her vegetarianism is often lumped in with everything else "Phoebe."

In my opinion vegetarian characters like Phoebe are harmless — they're good for laughs, and that's what television is for after all. Nevertheless the banal parts of being a vegetarian are sometimes the ones that resonate most with a vegetarian audience. I think those can help reduce the stigma around vegetarian and vegan eating choices. Having characters who are not defined intrinsically by their vegetarianism but who make visible vegetarian choices on a

show drives home the point that anyone can be vegetarian and that food choices are mostly just one aspect of a complex life.

Another interesting thing I realized as I looked up vegetarian and vegan movie/television characters is that in many cases I don't remember that aspect of their character even though I myself am vegan. Lexy from *Jurassic Park*, Ian Miller from *My Big Fat Greek Wedding*, Elle Woods from *Legally Blonde* and Candace from *The Perks of Being a Wallflower* are all examples of vegetarian or vegan characters from movies I've seen. While I enjoy the representation of vegetarian and vegan characters in movies, food choices aren't usually what you remember about people, especially those with whom you never share meals!

Ultimately the media affects everyone's perception, and a positive portrayal of vegans and vegetarians is something to look forward to as they become increasingly common in our culture. For now let's just laugh with Phoebe.

BILL TOENJES/CC BY-NC-ND 2.0  
Lisa Simpson became vegetarian in an episode of *The Simpsons*.

## Macaroni and cheese, a college necessity

Hayley Bronner  
Throwback Thursday

**T**he ultimate comfort food passed down through generations and generations is the one and only macaroni and cheese. Everybody has their desired way of making it but it gives satisfaction to all nonetheless. After a play date, after school, in the morning or at midnight, there was never a bad time to eat mac and cheese throughout our childhoods!

One of our many first foods was most likely pasta of some sort so naturally cheese-covered pasta couldn't have been too far behind. Many of us don't remember a time when we didn't eat mac and cheese on a regular basis. It's probably even more prevalent in our current diets than it was when we were young! It was a staple back in the day but is a necessity in college. What is easier to make and more delicious than cheese-covered pasta? Nothing.

There are millions

of different recipes and methods for making this classic dish. From cheddar cheese to baked-with-breadcrumbs, three cheese to bacon, onion, lobster or truffle oil — the possibilities are endless. But we cannot forget which one has always been there when we are short on time and need it most: Easy Mac.

Kraft began selling macaroni with instant processed cheese as early as 1937! Throughout the Great Depression and World War II, family income was low, and meat and dairy were rationed. This hearty and inexpensive pasta meal consequently captivated the market. Value and convenience is and always has been Kraft's main selling point for the product.

Easy Mac contains single servings of the company's original mac and cheese. While all versions are undeniably delicious, there is absolutely no argument for this fact: The character-shaped pasta in Easy Mac tastes much better than the regular shapes. Whether it is *SpongeBob*, *Monsters Inc.*, *Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles* or *Star Wars*, the way that the cheese gets into the shapes makes consuming this Easy Mac an undeniably spiritual experience.

Whether you are snowed in, you skipped dinner or you need a mid-

night snack or just a quick lunch before class, eating Easy Mac is a weekly if not daily occurrence here at Hopkins. Life is just too busy NOT to eat Easy Mac. Every time we bring the spoon (or fork!) to our mouths, we are instantly de-stressed and brought back home to our big kitchen tables.

While Easy Mac is doubtlessly delightful, nothing beats really going home to mom's or grandma's homemade mac and cheese. Every family has their ancient family recipe never to be shared with another. Basically any other food can be added to macaroni and cheese and it would be delicious. It can also be fried, baked or just boiled and microwaved. Everybody has their own spin to put on this classic comfort food, but even at a fancy restaurant in bustling Baltimore

it always reminds us of home.

Looking back in history it could be hard for us to imagine where this dish was originally invented. While it is extremely popular in the United States and Canada today, macaroni and cheese originally came from the United Kingdom. The original recipe was first written in the fourteenth century in Old English. It was created as a baked main dish in the English cookbook *Forme of Cury*.

Today mac and cheese can be a side or main dish, and there is no correct way to make it. However if you are feeling particularly adventurous this summer, July 14 is America's National Macaroni and Cheese Day. So try out as many recipes as possible to celebrate!

MIKE MOZART/CC BY 2.0  
Kraft Macaroni and Cheese is sold in many shapes, like SpongeBob.

## March Horoscopes

**Aquarius** — Make sure you get enough sleep this week because you will be visited by ghosts next week, and this will prevent you from getting more than three hours of sleep.

**Pisces** — If you are approached by a tall, dark stranger, do not engage. Repeat: Do not engage.

**Aries** — Try to engage with any Pisces who seems lonely but only if you are tall and dark and a stranger. These are the people that make Pisces feel the most comfortable.

**Taurus** — Mars is or is not in retrograde and is unable to answer your question. Ask again later.

**Gemini** — Don't lose anything. For real this time. You might not be able to find it again.

**Cancer** — Spend some time outdoors and appreciate nature. You never know when you might be locked in a basement for a while.

**Leo** — Just be quiet, people are tired of listening to you brag about your test scores.

**Virgo** — Hang in there, bud. Things will get better. Spring break is coming up. Go somewhere sunny and eat some ice cream!

**Libra** — Don't tie your shoes tomorrow. It's... bad luck to tie your shoes on a day ending with the letter y.

**Scorpio** — Sad? Just look around and watch all the Libras trip tomorrow.

**Sagittarius** — Count to a million.

**Capricorn** — Laugh at all your Sagittarius friends who are going to spend about two weeks counting just because a newspaper told them to.

# the johns hopkins NEWS-LETTER

## Editorials

### Moments and milestones in the history of women at Hopkins

"Imagine yourself a woman, walking into a classroom and being addressed as 'Gentleman.' Imagine yourself walking into the gym and being told that you need a male escort in order to use the ping-pong tables... This was the Johns Hopkins University in 1970 and 1971," Cynthia Young said in her 1974 Hopkins commencement speech.

Young was one of the first women to graduate from the undergraduate program at Hopkins. She is one of the many women who made history at the University for being the first. In honor of Women's History Month, the Editorial Board decided to look at the history of firsts for women at Hopkins.

At its founding in 1876, Hopkins was an all-male school. However, this quickly changed with emergence of the women's suffrage movement in the late 19th century.

One of the first places at Hopkins where women were accepted was the School of Nursing, which opened in 1889. One year later, when the Medical School found itself severely lacking in money, four women offered to raise the \$500,000 needed to open the school on the grounds that women would be admitted. The Board of Trustees agreed to the deal, and in 1893 the School of Medicine opened with three out of the 18 medical students women.

Despite this victory, the battle for women's admittance into the graduate and undergraduate programs at the Homewood campus continued. The opening of the Woman's College of Baltimore (now Goucher) in 1888 greatly diminished the demand for a co-ed undergraduate program at Hopkins because Goucher's curriculum was based on that of Hopkins. However, the lack of graduate programs available to women and the opening of graduate programs to women by Yale (1892) and Brown (1891), among other prestigious universities, placed pressure on Hopkins to permit women to earn their masters and PhDs.

Finally, in 1907, women were admitted into the graduate programs at Hopkins. The first four women to take their doctorates in 1911 got theirs in chemistry, geology, German and mathemat-

ics. Later graduates like Rachel Carson, who got her masters degree in zoology in 1932, went on to write books like *Silent Spring* (1962), which sparked the debate about DDT and eventually led to it being banned.

After the admittance of female graduate students, the next big battles were to bring in female professors and to allow women into the undergraduate programs. Unfortunately, the fight for female undergraduates would take another 62 years.

In 1917, Florence R. Sabin became the first female professor at the School of Medicine. There is currently a statue of Sabin in the gallery at the United States Capitol in honor of her contributions to medical knowledge of blood vessels, the lymphatic system and tuberculosis. Six years later, Florence Bamberger became the first woman appointed as a professor at Hopkins, in the school of philosophy.

In the 1960s, the push to accept undergraduate female students reached a peak, and in 1969 the Board voted to allow women to enter as undergraduates; in September 1970, 90 women enrolled at the University. These women had to fight to get housing, a gynecologist in the health center and proper security. The University was slow to respond, choosing to take an approach that focused on dealing with the issues as they arose rather than planning for long-term co-education. Since then, the amount of women admitted to the school has grown substantially, and currently 50 percent of students enrolled at Hopkins are women.

Hopkins has never had a female University President, and it was in 1991 that Estelle Fishbein became the first female Vice President. Although the University has come a long way with women's rights since its founding 140 years ago — Hopkins just hired its first Gender Equity Director in the fall — it still has progress to make. The clearest example is the faculty ratio: There are currently substantially fewer tenured female faculty than male, and we want to see that change. In the years to come, we hope Hopkins will continue to make progress in the field of women's rights.

### Student publications are valuable outlets of expression

*The Hopkins Dialectic* is a new journal founded by sophomore Karl Johnson that will discuss the intersection of Christianity with modern issues and subject such as philosophy, science and literature. The journal expects to publish its first issue in April and until then has been working with *The Triple Helix* to hold discussions on similar topics that students will write about in the journal.

The Editorial Board is pleased that the student body has another publication. We support any student-rooted initiative to spread the written word, and we hope that students will read and engage with *The Dialectic* like they do with the other existing publications on campus. It takes a lot of work to write, compile and edit a full-scale publication, and we, like many other students, know how demanding Hopkins can be. We commend Johnson and his staff for taking the time to do us all such a service.

We believe that special-interest pub-

lications of this type have an important role to play on campus. Religion is just one example of an often misunderstood and demonized entity on college campuses, and *The Dialectic* is actively fighting head-on the biases students may have with Christianity. *The Dialectic*, along with other student publications, offers students a platform to engage in difficult or controversial topics.

Hopkins has a lot of student publications, such as the *JHU Politik*, *The Triple Helix*, *J. Magazine* and *Thoroughfare*, and they all fill a niche. As long as students want to write and want to contribute their thoughts, then all of the publications are necessary. The readership isn't always most important — what matters is that the forum for expression exists on campus. Even *The News-Letter*, which has a decent variety of content, cannot support every student who has thoughts to share, and so we're glad that there are more outlets and more opportunities for students to be heard.

The Editorial Board that writes the editorials consists of the Editors-in-Chief, Managing Editors, Opinions Editor, and an editor-at-large on rotation from the remain editors (excluding the News & Features Editors).

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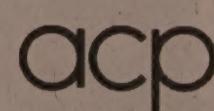
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# OPINIONS

## In case of Trump, Canada offers you political safety

BY  
SABRINA  
WANG

On Tuesday, Donald Trump barreled through the primaries once again, winning Michigan and Mississippi. Not that I'm surprised this time around; after winning Super Tuesday with landslide victories, it appears that the sky has turned green for the businessman.

Donald Trump, or Donald Drumpf, as championed by late night host John Oliver, has been saturating every outlet of my social media, bludgeoning every one of my senses with his smug, holier-than-thou smirk, duck lips and wispy toupee. When I first discovered he was running for president more than a year ago, I dismissed him immediately. I thought it was going to be another failed venture, echoing its pitfalls of predecessors like Trump University.

Much to my dismay, he has succeeded so far on all fronts.

Even my younger sister, a high schooler who lives in Canada, knows about Trump's notoriety. Information between geographical regions always diffuses from higher to lower concentrations.

"He sucks."

She left it at that.

It has been easy to dismiss him as a raving lunatic who poses no threat. Until now. "Make America Great Again" can be easily brushed as the broad sweeping statement of white supremacists, the legion of supporters Trump doesn't like to associate with, but doesn't firmly detach from.

Videos of YouTubers asking Trump supporters about quotes allegedly said by Trump (but really, said by Hitler) circulate the web. Trump retweeted a quote attributed to Mussolini, which was made by a spoof Twitter account. Trump did this that showed how racist he is. Trump did that.

There is a lot of idiocy in the world, but it is highly unlikely that all of Trump's supporters were severely dropped on their heads as children. For some, there is logic in his crude appeal. His trademark line is "The American dream is dead," and for people who have seen their job sector monopolized by automated machines and globalization, people who have seen their careers fall below their parents' success, it is true. Does it still count as the American dream when you make less than your parents, and are twice as miserable?

Although he may not be skilled in most things save for maintaining his fake tan, his main talent — and a horribly remarkable one at that — is his ability to incite both fear and entitlement. Yes, you can rise to greatness (what is that, by the way?) once again! You don't have a job sector any more? The most obvious solution is to build a wall along the U.S.-Mexico border! All the problems stem from the immigrants! All the other countries in the world are out to get us. A critique from the Pope? Well, guess we should excommunicate him.

These statements, so ludicrous when separate, congeal



MICHAEL GARNETT VIA FLICKR/CC-BY-SA 2.0

into a mass of hysteria when put together. People are afraid. And Trump boldly strides into the midst with a profanity and crudeness that normal politicians would never dream about doing.

Surprisingly, in the several times that I have seen him on talk shows, one-to-one with the host, his demeanor is a diminished version of the spittle-firing, red-faced squirrel I see in debates or public speeches. (Rather, the recap of those debates. I haven't the patience or mental capacity to watch them in full.) Every time I see his face, I expect a full raging tirade that spews whenever his mouth opens.

For me, his appeal lies in the entertainment value. First off, he is a great conversation starter. Use Trump as a substitute for "great weather today," or "nice shoes." Really, nothing unites people like a common enemy.

Since people have been clamoring for Canada (if Donald Trump is elected President), it is my duty as Canadian to welcome all Trump avoiders.

Come. We have Trudeau.

Sabrina Wang is a sophomore Neuroscience major from Vancouver.

BY HAYLEY DOTT

Before the New Hampshire primary on Feb. 9, Madeline Albright and Gloria Steinem, pioneering, feminist dynamos of the 1960s, had some choice words for young female voters. At a rally for Hillary Clinton in the state on Feb. 7, Albright took to the podium to address undecided backers, saying, "We can tell our story of how we climbed the ladder, and a lot of younger women think it's done. It's not done. There's a special place in hell for women who don't help each other." To which, Clinton laughed.

If it was not bad enough that Albright equated eternal damnation with the tick of a box on a voter card, Gloria Steinem echoed similar sentiments on Feb. 5 on the *Bill Maher Show*. "When you're young, you're thinking, 'Where are the boys? The boys are with Bernie.'" By this logic, it seems that Albright and Steinem believe that female voters not in favor of Hillary Clinton are reprobates solely seeking male attention.

Steinem has gone on to apologize for her remarks through Facebook in recent weeks, but her and Albright's words still raise controversy in a revolutionary election. The United States of America has never in history been this close to electing a woman for president.

Many wonder if this does call for some solidarity among women with the Clinton campaign. However, it is important to examine if Clinton herself has demonstrated or exemplified solidarity in her own actions in her path to the White House first as first lady, then Secretary of State, and now as the country's potential executive leader.

At the height of investigation into her husband during his tenure as president and the assault accusations made against him by Juanita Broaddrick, Paula Jones, and Kathleen Wiley, it

is alleged that Clinton was instrumental in diminishing the credibility of these victims to save face for her powerful husband. In an article by Mark Hensch and Jonathan Easley for *The Hill* published on Jan. 6, Juanita Broaddrick claimed "Hillary tried to silence me" in regard to the allegation she made in 1999 that Bill Clinton, then Attorney General in Arkansas, raped her.

An article in the *Washington Times* by R. Emmett Tyrrell Jr. gives similar insight. He claims, "Hillary's ruthlessness knew no bounds." Citing passages from David Brock's book, *The Seduction of Hillary Rodham*, he quotes

the political editor of the *Arkansas Democrat-Gazette*, as recalling, "Women were called and told they'd make them look like whores if they came forward" during the peak of investigation into Mr. Clinton's indiscretions.

As additional information is uncovered, this twisted dynamic sounds more like the plot of an episode of *House of Cards*. However, it is important to examine if Clinton herself has demonstrated or exemplified solidarity in her own actions in her path to the White House first as first lady, then Secretary of State, and now as the country's potential executive leader.

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Mrs. Clinton's so-called



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"ruthlessness" leads many to ask whether she truly is just a part of the establishment. She is repeatedly accused of vacillating between opinions to garner the vote of whatever group she is targeting at the moment and is currently under fire for withholding the speeches she has made to Wall Street.

Additionally, the Democratic National Convention is endorsing her as their pick for the Democratic nominee, making it difficult for nay-sayers who are a part of the Convention to voice and act on their true leanings in the election. The vice-chair of the DNC, Representative Tulsi Gabbard, resigned from her position on Sunday, Feb. 28 in order to support Bernie Sanders.

With the momentum that Clinton has raised, it seems difficult or even ridiculous to not support her as the most viable Democratic candidate. At least that is what the Clinton camp wants voters to think. Ironically, David Brock, the author of her somewhat defamatory biography, now heads a super PAC for her campaign. Is he trying to jump onto Clinton's right, er, left side of history before it's too late?

Hayley Dott is a sophomore writing seminars major from Baltimore.

## Spring break should be for discovery and exploration

BY TOMMY KOH

Pausing is important. Pausing allows us to be present, to take stock of how far we've come, where we are and where we need to go. The act of pausing seems almost necessary when the business and tiredness of daily life is recognized. To many, the upcoming Spring Break represents just that. An opportunity to pause, to rest, to take stock.

But even as we contemplate our imminent departure from the daily grind, let us give some thought to what exactly pausing means. Is pausing truly a state of nothingness, a blank space in between two disjoint chapters of life? Perhaps a better way to think of pausing is as a temporary suspen-

tion of our everyday agenda. To give ourselves the chance to look inward and channel our energy toward discovering and exploring.

What might we fill this "in-between" space with? Cast aside thoughts of catching up with work or getting ahead before semester restarts. All of these merely extend or bring forward the stressors and complexities of the experience we have to manage on

a daily basis. Think instead about things that have been forgotten, collecting dust in some corner of our lives, things that we've always wanted to do but never got around to.

Given the space, our minds naturally return to what we deem important. It might be reconnecting with a friend who we've lost contact with but still care deeply for. It might be spending time cooking our family a meal to thank them for supporting us all this time. It might be doing something for a special someone to remind them of the impact they've had on our lives.

This space is easily crowded out by the best of plans and intentions. We are far too often caught up in our own schedules that we leave little time for anything else. This is a reminder to embrace spontaneity just as we would #EmbraceTheS. Just as celebrating uniqueness and what makes us different is important, giving ourselves the flexibility to spend our time on things that present themselves is similarly important.

Specific to Spring Break, a step toward pausing and being present might be to challenge

ourselves to do something we otherwise wouldn't do. This could be trying a new café that opened in our neighborhood, getting to know new

neighbors who just moved in during the past semester at college, attending a music or art event which we might not have considered doing in the past.

Uniting every one of these possibilities is the prospect of uncertainty. We don't know whether that new café would be good, we don't know if our new neighbors will be friendly, we don't know if we'll be able to appreciate the music or art we are exposed to at the event we might attend. But herein lies the beauty of the pause. We lead our lives pursuing aims that we spend our lives trying to articulate. To temporarily depart from this path demands us to dare to be uncertain.

Even for those of us spending Spring Break here at Hopkins, familiar environments do not hinder the possibilities of discovery and exploration. There is always the option of exploring one of Baltimore's neighborhoods, in-



INES HEGEDUS-GARCIA VIA FLICKR/CC-BY-SA 2.0

cluding those surrounding our Homewood Campus. Few know that the area between the Penn Station and Homewood contains 10 neighborhoods (between Charles and Greenmount). Each neighborhood has its own character, exploring them will be different and exciting.

Ultimately, a pause is an opportunity for discovery and for exploration. It is an opportunity that empowers us to spend time doing something different, something uncertain. It is an opportunity to revisit old interests and perhaps find new ones. These are the precious moments that allow us to find our way, to find ourselves, to find ourselves again. Let us not waste them by forgetting to discover and explore.

Tommy Koh is a sophomore psychology and political science double major from Singapore.

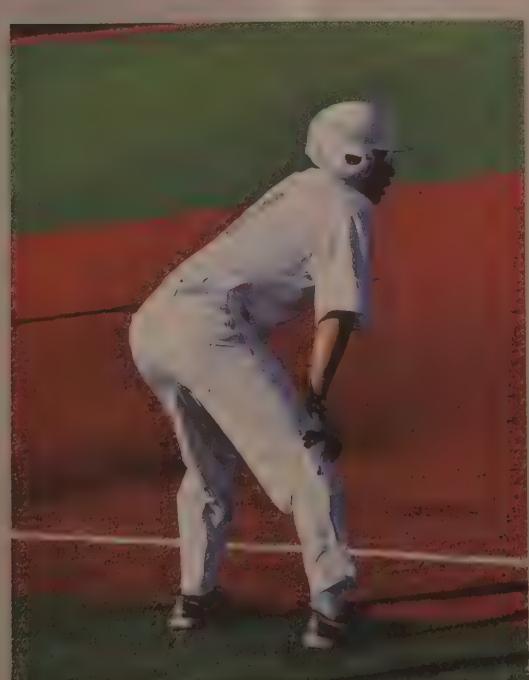
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# PHOTO ESSAY



## Blue Jay Baseball

By: Ellie Hallenborg  
Photography Staff



# THE B SECTION

YOUR WEEKEND • ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT • CARTOONS, ETC. • SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY • SPORTS

MARCH 10, 2016

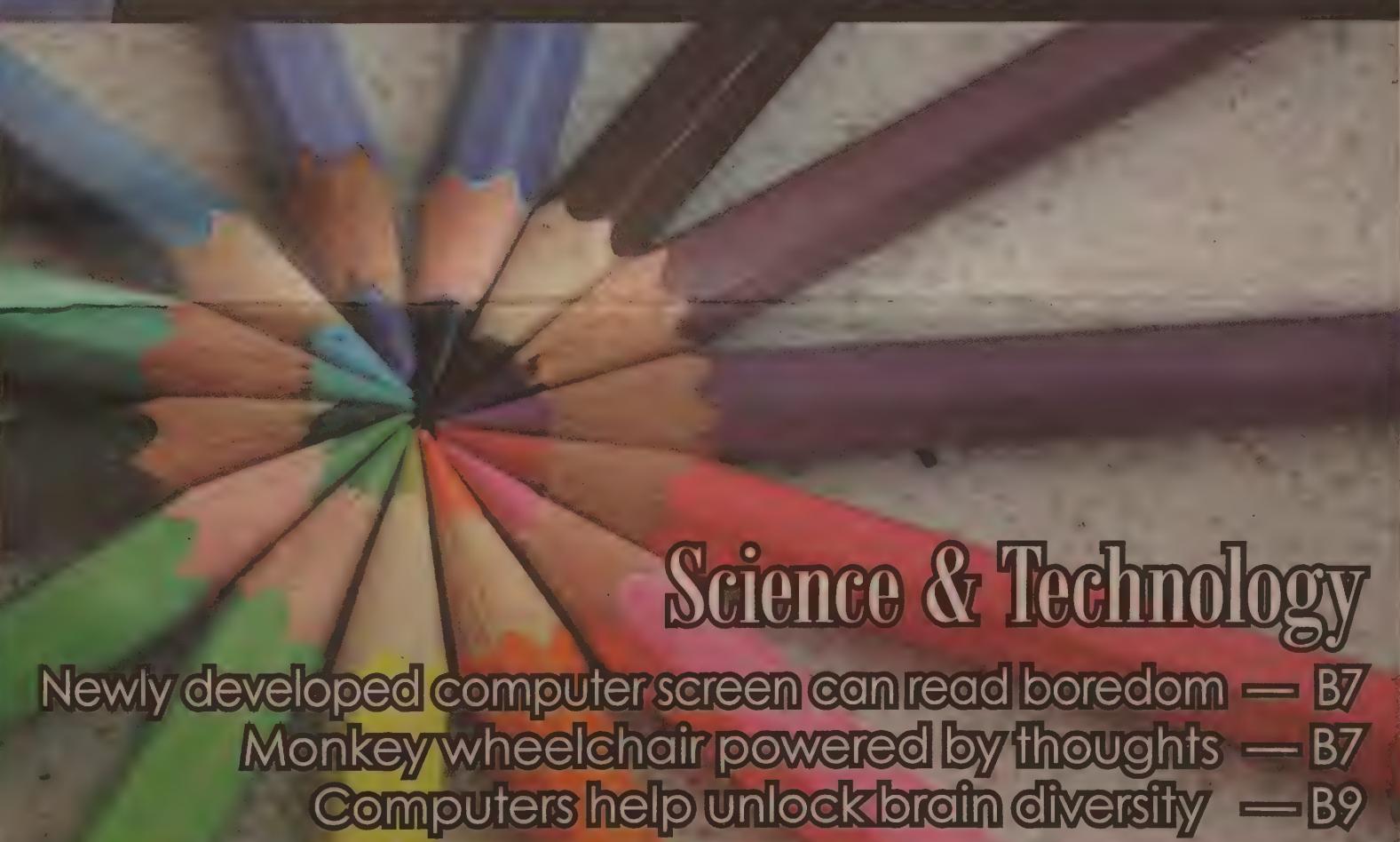


## Arts & Entertainment

Kendrick Lamar drops surprise new album — B3

*Gods of Egypt* does not earn high marks — B4

*Son of Saul* offers grim, visceral portrayal of Auschwitz — B5



## Science & Technology

Newly developed computer screen can read boredom — B7

Monkey wheelchair powered by thoughts — B7

Computers help unlock brain diversity — B9



## Sports

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Two basketball players earn spots on All-CC team — B12

# YOUR WEEKEND MAR. 10-13

## Events in Baltimore this weekend

### Thursday

#### Talking Shop: Art + Activism

The Walters Art Museum, 7 p.m.

Join producer-author-activist Eddie Conway and artist Tania Bruguera for a conversation on art and activism.

#### Venus Envy 2016 All Female Art Show

Gallery 788, 7 p.m.

A diverse group of female artists will have their work showcased at the opening of Venus Envy.

#### Baltimore Mayoral Debate

Carl J. Murphy Fine Arts Center, 7 p.m.

Candidates from the Democratic Party campaigning for the primary will be taking questions and debating.

#### Sherman Whips, Surf Harp and Guests

El Camino at The Annex 2E, 8 p.m.

Four local music acts will be performing at Station North DIY space El Camino for a \$5 donation.

### Friday

#### Power Point Karaoke II

Atomic Books, 7 p.m.

This night of improvisational presentations using unknown PowerPoint slides will benefit Moveable Feast.

#### Andrew Bernstein, Anna & Elizabeth, Tigue and Alpenglow

The 5th Dimension, 8 p.m.

Baltimore's Andrew Bernstein will be releasing *The Great Outdoors*. Touring acts will join him.

### Saturday

#### Constructing Identity:

A Public Anti-Racism Workshop

Patterson Park Branch Library, 10:30 a.m.

Baltimore activists will share their projects and reflect via art and discussion. The workshop is FREE!

#### Romantic States, Plattenbau and Guests

The Crown, 9 p.m.

Rock duos Romantic States (Baltimore) and Plattenbau (Germany) will share the stage with two local acts.

#### Girls Rule: A Night Out at Ottobar

The Ottobar, 10 p.m.

This dance party will feature all female artists and benefit Planned Parenthood of Maryland.

### Sunday

#### Classical Revolution Baltimore:

Listening Party

The Crown, 8 p.m.

Chill out at the Crown with specially curated classical tracks accompanied by visuals.

## Live music in review: Kurt Vile at Ottobar



COURTESY OF KATHRYN BUCHSER

Kurt Vile (right) plays guitar in his recent Ottobar show, where he exhibited everything from classic '70s rock to skilled banjo.

By DAVID SHI  
Your Weekend Columnist

"Because it was a Monday, no a Tuesday, no Wednesday, Thursday, Friday." It was a Friday, and Kurt Vile was playing the Ottobar with the Violators. If you are not familiar at all with Kurt Vile, simply turn to the song "Classic Rock in Spring/Freeway in Mind" off the album *Constant Hitmaker*. It's a song from earlier in his career but sums up what Kurt Vile is going to do for you quite nicely.

He manages to evoke nearly every sentiment, from '70s rock and Americana to banjos and strumming, lightly picked electric or acoustic guitars streaming through a car stereo, quietly affirming to you that it's still cool to like rock 'n' roll. In "Pretty Pimpin,'" Kurt Vile is momentarily confused about where and who he is. And that's something

that is firmly expressed consistently through his discography: A sense of slight confusion and a state of being where "far out" wouldn't seem too clichéd. "Daze" is a word that pops up pretty consistently in his songs.

It's easy to miss how insightful his lyrics can actually be, especially if you're just looking at his music as some campy stoner nonsense. But away from the daze and the dream we are reminded that Kurt Vile is a living breathing human being, one who sings about his old, fast-paced, blue-collar job as a forklift driver and his one semester flirtation with community college.

When you think of things in context, you'll become aware that the daze isn't a gimmick, and it isn't something manufactured. It's not a shoegaze kind of dream where noise is used to contort instruments and voices

but rather the sense that something's missing or aloof. And there's a kind of authenticity to acknowledging that life isn't on stable grounding.

Kurt Vile sings in a slightly under-his-breath murmur, but his voice is nasal enough that it cuts through the sometimes dream-like quality of his music.

Kurt Vile comes on stage, and the atmosphere at the Ottobar is what you would expect. The place is dive-y in a non-pretentious, non-decrepit way. The crowd is pretty diverse, and it makes sense. The style of music is one that appeals to a larger fan base.

He opens the show with the song "I'm an Outlaw," which starts with a looped electronic drum layered with a banjo (a consistent instrument in his discography and the instrument that he first learned).

"I've been following

him for about four years," sophomore Tommy Athey says. "I've seen him before in York, Pa.... but this show was a lot better since he has more fans and has written some awesome electric songs."

Next, Kurt moves through "b'lieve i'm goin down" and a scattering of older songs. The atmosphere that Kurt Vile has been known for is still there, but there's a new sense of energy that's been added.

His on-stage persona is low-key and lucid, making it easier for you to assign meaning to the words that he's singing. Though he wastes no time by talking to the crowd, there isn't the sense that he doesn't want to talk to you; he's just ready to rock. His music rocks, and it's not embarrassing at all for me to use the word. The concert flows by seamlessly. In Kurt Vile's words, "It's all in a daze work."

## Burlesque definitely not a drag (or was it?)

By VERONICA REARDON  
Your Weekend Columnist

Last Saturday night I was more tired than anything else. Although I planned on going out with my boyfriend and a group of our friends, I decided I was going to have maybe one or two drinks and then go home as early as I could. Of course as such things go, that was not what happened.

We started out at Lost City Diner, which (fun fact!) is BYOB. After that we caught the Circulator to the Ottobar. Every weekend the Ottobar has something going on that you pay for with a pretty reasonable cover, and this event was no exception. The cover was \$8.

If you decide to go to the Ottobar, watch out! Sometimes their covers are a dollar or two higher than it says on the website and they often charge more if you are underage (to make up for the lack of drink sales). Make sure to bring a little bit of extra cash.

This time there was a burlesque and drag queen show. It was a very pleasant surprise for me because I had no idea there was anything interesting going on, and the show was great.

The performers were a mix of burlesque dancers and drag queens who were all amazing. In one



COURTESY OF VERONICA REARDON

The Ottobar in Remington, about a 15-minute walk from Homewood, regularly hosts burlesque events.

particularly memorable performance, a drag queen came on dressed as Hillary Clinton and did some very interesting things with a blow-up sex doll. The performers included Maxine, the Drag Queen; Gina Tonique, TimelessTease Productions' Whiskey Joy; Pamela de la Cruz; and Chocolate City Burlesque and Cabaret's Bunny Vicious.

The DJ for the dance afterward was DJ Trill-natured, who did an awesome job (or maybe I was just drunk, who knows).

At one point after the show, half the audience was on the stage dancing with the performers. I'll never forget the sight of one of my friends trying (and failing) to dance with one of the burlesque ladies. There was also a *Daria* (that '90s cartoon) theme going on, so there were *Daria*-themed drinks and the music after the show was of the '90s.

The event itself was a fundraiser for Moveable Feast, which delivers groceries and gives counseling to people with life-threatening illnesses such as cancer and HIV/AIDS. I'm not sure how often Ottobar has fundraisers for them, but they have some more organized by Ride For the Feast teams coming up. These are teams of people who are doing a bicycle race of some kind for Moveable Feast.

Anyhow that was my Saturday night, and though it got a little out of hand, it was a pretty good time! I'd recommend checking out any and all of those drag and burlesque acts if you get the chance — they were all awesome.

# ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

## Kendrick Lamar hits hard on newest EP



MERLIJN HOEK/CC-BY-NC-ND-2.0

Kendrick Lamar returns with a new extended play that's coming off the heels of a critical darling.

By DUBRAY KINNEY  
Arts & Entertainment Editor

Kendrick Lamar has been in the public eye for the past five years and has undergone a meteoric rise in popularity in the last three. In his breakout studio album *good kid, m.A.A.d city*, Lamar paid his respects to multiple west coast icons including Dr. Dre. Years later, Lamar holds notoriety that rivals that of Dre's considerable clout in the rap industry.

Lamar's first release to gain public attention was his fourth mixtape, *Overly Dedicated*, which he soon followed up with his debut underground hit, *Section.80. good kid, m.A.A.d city* followed soon after in 2012 and the album gained great acclaim for its nostalgic callbacks to the past of west coast hip-hop, as well as its autobiographical features.

Now, a year out from his other critically-acclaimed album *To Pimp A Butterfly*, Lamar has released a compilation of tracks from his recording sessions for *To Pimp A Butterfly*. This compilation/extended play is titled *untitled unmastered*.

*good kid, m.A.A.d* was such a neatly wrapped love letter to hip-hop that many doubted that Kendrick's subsequent release could even touch the quality of the LP.

In late 2014 he began *To Pimp A Butterfly*'s rollout with the divisive lead single "i" and in March 2015, he assuaged all thoughts of disappointment with one of the biggest and most socially-conscious albums of 2015.

After the silence surrounding what Kendrick would be doing next, he released *untitled unmastered* this past Friday. Its connections to *To Pimp A Butterfly* are blaring and intentional. Perhaps the

most obvious connection is the recurring vignettes that open tracks. In *To Pimp A Butterfly*, this took the form of a poem from Kendrick to deceased rapper Tupac Shakur and here it takes the form of a quasi-sarcastic celebration: "Pimp, pimp! Hooray!" The celebration seems to be on the prophetic success of *To Pimp A Butterfly* (as this EP was recorded prior to the album's release).

*untitled unmastered* also features a large contribution from frequent Kendrick collaborator Stephen "Thundercat" Bruner. Thundercat brings his signature bass-lines and influential touch to the tracks that he runs through.

The EP opens with a smooth bass-line over a spoken word verse, similar to the way *To Pimp A Butterfly* began. A minute and a half in the bassline is subbed out for a quick moving beat and Lamar spitting a verse.

This intro track sets the tone for the release and shows that almost every song has two faces. What may start out as a quick-paced track with hard-hitting punchlines could become a soul-felt

verse over distant trumpets by the song's conclusion. "untitled 01" ends with a bridge that leads directly to the next track, which is one of the strongest.

"Get God on the phone!" shouts Kendrick on one of the EP's standout tracks, "untitled 02." The track was recorded in 2014, prior to the release of *To Pimp A Butterfly* but still manages to accurately predict that album's great success.

The track feels like the fulfillment of the common braggadocio, world-beater commentary that usually filters out during the initial singles for an album. It's interesting to see this usually shallow talk backed up to such a level.

On "untitled 02," Lamar draws a clear parallel to an infamous quote from Fannie Lou Hamer, a prominent civil rights activist.

"I'm sick and tired of being tired," Lamar raps.

The same social, political and economic strife that Kendrick has become known to criticize is still here. This particular repurposing of a famous civil rights leader's lines works itself well into an earworm of a song.

"untitled 03" feels similar to "King Kunta," with singer Bilal featuring heavily.

Another point that is interesting about the release is the aggression that Kendrick brings to some of the tracks. The way that his flow and cadence switches makes some of the song reminiscent of the dual accents of Detroit rapper Danny Brown.

"I got one hundred on my dash, got 200 in my bunk!" Lamar raps on "untitled 05", a track that he partially premiered during his controversial Grammys performance in February. Later on in the track

SEE LAMAR, PAGE B5

## We Do film screening shows LGBTQ pride

By SPENCER ABROHMS  
Staff Writer

The JHU Pride and The Arts, Entertainment, Media and Entrepreneurship Affinity Group (AEMA Affinity) presented a showing of the documentary *We Do: After Marriage Equality* on March 3. The JHU Pride is a group that works to create a community for Hopkins' LGBTQ alumni and the AEMA Affinity for alumni to connect with one another and discover new resources and information through their former classmates.

This documentary presented by these groups in Mason Hall delved into the complex subject of what it means for the LGBTQ community to have the right to marry and its implications for the future. It is an emotional, yet humorous and thoughtful look back at the long, difficult road to equality and coming to the realization that there is still work to be done.

*We Do: After Marriage Equality* was created by Rebecca Rice, a Hopkins alumna who works as an independent filmmaker in Texas. Rice began work on the film over a year and a half ago when it appeared

that marriage equality was finally inevitable. By filing of Obergefell vs. Hodges, which would ultimately grant full marriage equality, Rice wanted to capture the time from civil unions to the impending full marriage rights. She accomplished this by interviewing three couples in order to tell their stories.

The film is broken up into three chapters to show the stories of each couple from when they met to their weddings to what happened after their marriages.

Due to time constraints, only the second chapter of the film was shown. This chapter covered each of the couples describing the lengths they had to go to in order to get married before full marriage rights were granted and how their respective wedding days played out.

The first couple depicted was a lesbian couple. One of the women had a son from a previous marriage who was there to walk her down the aisle. The couple told a touching story of how supportive all of their friends and family were of their wedding. One of the women's family was so overwhelmingly supportive that all three of her mother's ex-husbands

SEE SCREENING, PAGE B4

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SEE SCREENING, PAGE B4

## English club presents Ides of March celebration

By SARAH SCHREIB  
Arts & Entertainment Editor

The English Club hosted an Ides of March party in the Tudor & Stuart Room in Gilman on March 9. The event, which commemorated the day that Julius Caesar was assassinated in 44 B.C.E., included elements of both Roman and Shakespearean literature, with allusions to the play written by the Bard in the 16th century.

The event appealed to students of all majors and varying degrees of knowledge about Caesar and Shakespeare. The celebration took place nearly a week before the actual Ides of March, which occurs on March 15 every year. This date corresponds with another day on the Roman lunar calendar — the "ides" referring to the midpoint of the month according to the placement of the moon.

The death of the dictator marked a significant transition in Roman history. The story of the assassination was dramatized by Shakespeare in 1599

in the play *Julius Caesar*, which introduced the infamous quote, "beware the Ides of March." With this connection to literature, the English Club took the opportunity to celebrate both the work of Shakespeare and the day itself.

The party was initially delayed due to a fire alarm that went off minutes before the event. However, once students were able to reenter the building, the event was able to start. English Club co-presidents Emily

## DMC hosts talk on women in gaming

By ANEEKA RATNAYAKE and MEAGAN PEOPLES  
Staff Writers

As a part of women's history month, the Digital Media Center (DMC) held a talk on the role of women in the video game community on Feb. 5. The talk was titled "Pretty Dolls or Rational Actors?" and was given by Bridget M. Blodgett, an assistant professor at the University of Baltimore in the Simulation and Digital Entertainment program.

The DMC's first women in gaming event was held last year, in part stimulated by the University's recent increase in support for the women's history month commission.

Junior Erica Schwarz, a student organizer, talked about how the DMC's choice to hold talks detailing the struggles of women in gaming.

Blodgett holds a Ph.D from the College of Information Sciences and Technology at Penn State University, which she earned in May 2011. Her research focuses on the how virtual worlds and Internet culture create a social impact in our lives offline and on the use of technology within this culture.

More recently, she has focused on gender inclusiveness and identity within the gaming community, in light of recent events that sparked a discussion around these issues.

"We're from the digital media center, so gaming is a big priority and probably one of the spheres where this sort of issue comes up the most in that it's very visible," she said.

Blodgett opened her talk with a series of facts about women in the

gaming industry. One notable statistic she mentioned is that although 45 percent of people playing video games (and 46 percent of the people purchasing them) are female, between 4 percent and 23 percent of people working to create these games are female.

This highlights a sizable disconnect between the demographics of producers and consumers in the gaming industry. "There have been women in gaming since gaming has been around, but you wouldn't know it if you looked at the popular press around it," Blodgett said.

She went on to discuss the reasons why women are not entering the gaming industry, highlighting the role of hyper-masculinity in this phenomenon. The notion of hyper-masculinity is one that is both physical and mental.

Physically, the hyper-masculine refers to an athletically built, tough man, which can often be seen in the physical design of video game characters.

Mentally, the hyper-masculine refers to notions of intellectual superiority and emotional resignation. As a result, the role of women, both in the virtual world and the designing of the virtual world, ends up opposing this ideal and is thus viewed negatively.

Blodgett discussed women being placed in either the role of the sexual object, the overly talkative complainer or the invisible actor, none of which are conducive to women holding roles within the creation of video games.

Moreover, Blodgett discussed the overt threats that women faced when speaking out about the difficult

SEE DMC, PAGE B5



COURTESY OF SARAH SCHREIB

## ARTS &amp; ENTERTAINMENT

# Blodgett talks gender in gaming industry

DMC, FROM B3 released by Penny Arcade in 2012 titled "Dickwolves", which made jokes about women getting "raped to sleep by the dickwolves."

This cartoon caused controversy, as many people agreed that making a joke based on sexual assault was extremely out of taste. However, the cartoonists' apology only did more to mock those complaining about the cartoon than apologize for the content.

When Leigh Alexander, who describes herself as "a writer and critic focused on the ways technology and media intersect with culture and self-expression," commented on this controversy, she received many threats, particularly over Twitter.

When analyzed, the tweets directed at her frequently involved threats of rape. This dramatic escalation of hate speech shows the strength of the misogynistic culture that still exists around the gaming industry.

As Blodgett described this incident, the audience was visibly taken aback. There were many men in the audience, a phenomenon which Blodgett herself commented on, commending them for taking an interest in the subject.

Many students engaged in discussion with her after the presentation, asking questions about whether she believes a shift could occur toward greater inclusivity within the gaming community.

Not only was the role of women discussed, but one student raised the issue of the lack of inclusivity of non-binary people in the video game industry.

try.

Blodgett remained hopeful, even when discussing larger video games that are part of the AAA, a classification used for video games with the largest budgets for development and the highest levels of promotion.

"It is an industry — they're there to sell," she said.

This implies that if the public wants more inclusive games, the industries will be forced to produce such games. Once again, this emphasized her point that the shift toward inclusivity must come from consumers.

The second half of the talk was devoted to questions from audience members. One student asked how long before she thought there would be a bigger representation of gender fluidity within RPGs where players are able to design their own character.

"My cynical answer is that it has only been since 2010 that you can play a woman in most RPGs. So the likelihood of moving beyond that is in the very, very distant future," Blodgett said.

Freshman Sabrina Mackey enjoyed the talk because it was about an experience that she herself has encountered.

"I've gotten things like, 'Oh do you even play real games? List the games that you play. Do you even watch real anime?'"

"And more," she continued, "like 'Oh I don't think girls are tough enough to play these games' and 'You just aren't tough enough to look past the nudity and all of those sexist representations of women because you're not strong enough."

# Gods of Egypt fails to achieve full potential



**Tim Freborg**  
Flashframe Film  
Reviews

**I**t's safe to say that films with a sort of mythological basis to their plots have a sort of allure to them. At the very least, Hollywood seems to think so. Whether from an animated musical rendition of the legend of Hercules from Disney, or the slow motion bastardization of memes that was Zach Snyder's 300, audiences have always been fascinated with entering ancient worlds full of heroes, gods and epic quests.

While such films have never exactly been accurate to their historical or cultural roots, they've still managed to ingrain themselves into popular culture with their magical, grandiose simplicity.

That said, a vast majority of these films tend to focus themselves around the ancient Greek and Roman pantheons, and the heroes and figures hailed by those societies. It isn't very often that filmmakers opt to step away from the safe, familiar territory of Hercules, Perseus and Achilles. Enter *Gods of Egypt*, directed by Alex Proyas (*I, Robot*), setting a tale far from Zeus' reign in favor of that of Ra. With such a rich history and mythos at its disposal and several seasoned actors in lead roles, *Gods of Egypt* had all the makings of a rich, exciting adventure.

Unfortunately, for all its potential, all *Gods* manages to deliver is arguably the worst mythological adventure since *Clash of the Titans*. By the end of its excruciating two-hour runtime, I was left wishing there was something



Nikolaj Coster-Waldau stars in *Gods of Egypt* as Horus, an Egyptian god who seeks vengeance.

as stupidly hilarious as a cheesy robot owl in the film, at least then I could have laughed.

The film is set in a mythical Ancient Egypt, where towering gods walk among mortal men. One fateful day, at the royal heir-apparent Horus's (Nikolaj Coster-Waldau) coronation ceremony, the former godly king is killed by his brother, Set (Gerard Butler), in a bid for power over the mortal

realm.

Witnessing the death of his father, Horus assumes his godly form and challenges Set, but is soundly defeated by the elder god. In punishment, his eyes are gouged out (thus stripping him of his powers), and he is cast into exile.

Unopposed, Set institutes a regime of oppression, conscripting the masses into slavery and instituting punishing taxes on souls seeking entrance to the afterlife. Some time later, a slave girl named Zaya (Courtney Eaton) and her thief husband Bek (Brenton Thwaites) hatch a plan to retrieve Horus' eyes so that the god may return and reclaim the throne.

However, all does not go according to plan and soon the cast is entrapped in an adventurous struggle for power

that will take them to the brink of death and, occasionally, beyond.

Admittedly, I am not a scholar of Egyptian mythology. I cannot judge how accurately this film portrays its deities and heroic figures (though my gut gives me a general idea). What I am capable of discerning is whether a film's story works on its own, and, in that regard, *Gods of Egypt* fails miserably.

On paper, this shouldn't be the case: Audiences are given an exiled king, a motley crew of adventurers and an evil usurper who needs to be taken down. For all accounts, this ought to be a very simple story, and it would be if not for the film's ardent refusal to actually tell it.

From its first scene to its last, the film's story runs the gamut from being insultingly simplistic to ludicrously convoluted.

At nearly every corner, fresh new plot threads and devices are conjured out of thin air, with little regard for narrative cohesion. In fact, the film seems to have very little interest in telling a story at all, seeming much more content in letting every scene serve as a simple setup for the next round of cheesy, poorly-rendered CGI action.

Apparently, director Proyas was under the impression that fake-looking gold blood and animalistic *Iron-Man* rip-offs were more important to the viewing experience than little things like, say, character development.

What's more, at several points throughout the movie, entire characters and story arcs are introduced, yet receive no proper address or resolution by the film's end. For those few that are addressed, resolutions are given in such an off-handed, throwaway manner that it's a wonder they were even introduced

at all. The end result is a story that is hugely unsatisfying and gives little reason to care about anything that's happening on screen at any given time.

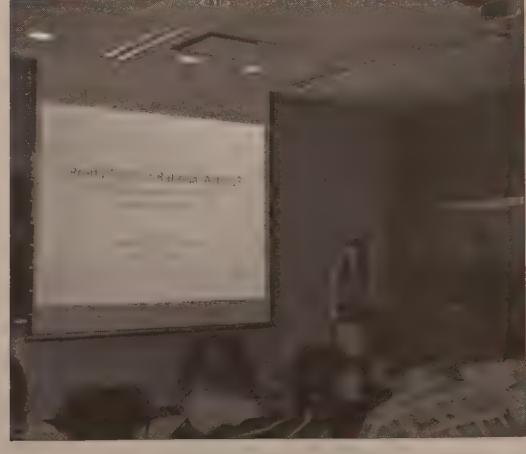
None of this is aided by the cast of the film, who have severely disappointed this time around. For those who haven't followed the issue, *Gods of Egypt* received heavy criticism from the time of its announcement for its white-washed cast.

In traditional Hollywood fashion, instead of opting for an ethnically and culturally accurate cast for its mythological film, it instead chose a nearly all-white British cast. While the questionable ethics of such casting practices are certainly cause for concern (and yes, very jarring in the film itself), the situation certainly isn't helped by the fact that the actors in question give dismal performances.

Coster-Waldau, despite his notoriety for his excellent performance in *Game of Thrones*, is dreadfully bland and has absolutely no chemistry with his lesser-known co-stars. Of course, this may not be his fault as none of the other cast members have chemistry with each other either. Gerard Butler fares a bit better, bringing the same hammy energy he brought to his work in 300. Unfortunately, whether it's due to the script or maybe the character itself, he doesn't capture that same level of power and interest he did back in 2007.

*Gods of Egypt* is truly a painful watch. Its story is dull and broken, its characters are bland and even its CGI action sequences aren't pleasant to watch. Whereas something as epic as *Clash of the Titans*, or its remake/sequel are hilarious in their failure, *Gods of Egypt* fails to achieve even that.

Overall rating: 1/10



ELLIE HALLENBORG/PHOTOGRAPHY STAFF  
Blodgett spoke about the role of women in the gaming industry.

# We Do shows conflict between love and the law

SCREENING, FROM B3 took turns walking her down the aisle in a sort of relay. Although this wedding was an incredible experience for those involved, it was not technically binding by law. The couple had to fly out to San Francisco to become officially married.

The next couple described was a gay couple who celebrated their one year anniversary by entering into a civil union. Because this was years ago, before national legalization, the couple had to drive up to Vermont to secure this union. Despite the couple's desire to have a private ceremony, one man's brother insisted on being there to share the day with them and drove up to the state as

well. While the civil union was a success, the couple had to meet with lawyers to sort out their rights and ensure they could achieve the same rights as a heterosexual marriage.

Finally, a lesbian couple discusses how their wedding day was a bit troubled. Though the couple found complete acceptance in liberal city of Austin, when venturing out of the city to go grocery shopping, the women remarked that they did not hold hands or show affection in order to avoid discrimination.

They realized that they focused greatly on other people's opinions and that many of the heteronormative structures in society had affected their thoughts and behaviors. Additional-

ally, the couple had trouble presenting their relationship to one woman's Mexican grandmother who did not support the marriage. This woman's whole family was awkward and unfriendly at the wedding, which caused the couple to decide that the wedding was probably a waste.

Ultimately, while the women loved one another, the passage of marriage equality was not enough to create a hospitable environment for their relationship to flourish in a public setting. Their story shows the limitations of legislation and the need to push for further acceptance of LGBTQ couples.

This screening of the film was followed by a panel discussion on marriage equality and its im-

plications. Members of the panel included Rice, Lisa Polak, the online moderator for Families with Pride, a social group for lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender parents and their children. Laura DePalma, who works for an LGBTQ legal advocacy organization in Maryland and Mike Bernard, who is a volunteer for Marylanders for Marriage Equality. The panel responded to questions about why marriage equality ultimately matters and combined their expertise to give thoughtful and enlightening responses.

Overall, Rice's film was a beautiful take on an incredibly pertinent issue and provides a glimpse into one of the many events Hopkins affinity groups have to offer.



Dominick D/CC-BY-SA-2.0  
Brenton Thwaites plays Bek, a mortal thief, in *Gods of Egypt*.

## ARTS &amp; ENTERTAINMENT

# Downton Abbey finale ends on a lighter note

The popular British series *Downton Abbey* ended its run on Sunday.

By CATHERINE PALMER  
News & Features Editor

*Downton Abbey*, the critically acclaimed and internationally popular British drama series, came to an end this past Sunday after six seasons in an uplifting two-hour series finale. In a show marked by tragedy, the finale gave viewers a chance to see every character get the happy ending he or she had long been striving for.

The series follows the Crawleys, a prominent British family, and their servants beginning in 1912 just after the sinking of the Titanic and ending on New Year's Eve 1926. Though the main ensemble cast of the show is fictional, they lived in the very real and very tumultuous world of early 20th-century England. Throughout the series, women could not inherit their own family's property. World War I took the lives of many young men and drastically changed the roles of women. Society was divided into very rigid social classes and having sex before marriage was viewed as a life-ruining indiscretion.

Within this world, creator Julian Fellowes wrote an ensemble of incredibly complex characters: a spoiled and haughty heiress turned hardworking and usually kind estate manager in Lady Mary (Michelle Dockery), a spiteful and unlucky middle sister turned into a heroic and lovable woman in Lady Edith (Laura Carmichael) and a villainous but sympathetic schemer turned into a perseverant champion in servant Thomas Barrow (Rob James-Collier).

Fellowes also made sure to include characters that served as the moral centers of the show. These characters included Matthew Crawley (Dan Stevens), heir to Downton and loving husband of Mary; Lady Sybil (Jessica Brown Findlay), the fiercely independent and incredibly caring little sister of the Crawleys who fell in love with the family chauffeur; Tom Branson (Allen Leech), the radical chauffeur turned level-headed and incredibly kind estate agent; and Lady Rose (Lily James), a lovable cousin to the Crawley family who refused to let her parents dictate who she married. Each of them encouraged those around them to become kinder and less judgmental.

ENGLISH, FROM B3  
alarm that went off beforehand couldn't put a damper on the celebration. I wish the English Club would hold more events like this one."

Another student who attended the event, sophomore Willah Peers, was puzzled by the advertising surrounding the event.

"I guess I was confused because they said

# Son of Saul creates strong emotional connection

By WILL KIRSCH  
Staff Writer

Baltimore's Charles Theatre is currently showing the Hungarian film *Son of Saul* in the wake of the film's Oscar victory in the category of "Best Foreign Language Film." The movie, which is director László Nemes' feature film debut, follows a Hungarian-Jewish man, Saul Ausländer, as he navigates the living hell of Auschwitz.

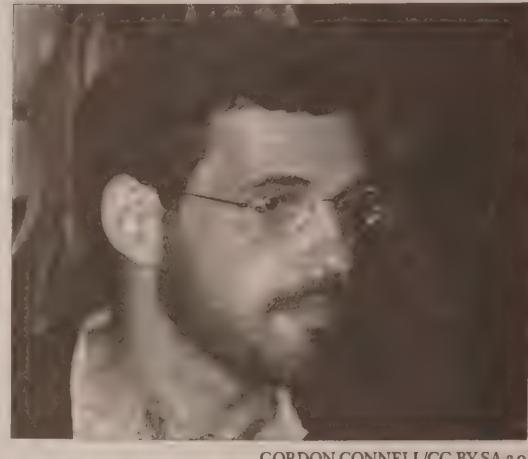
Saul, played by Hungarian actor-poet Géza Röhrig, is no mere prisoner; he is a member of the Sonderkommando, which were work units tasked with clearing and destroying the bodies of the gas chamber victims. These men lived apart from the rest of the camp so as to keep them from revealing the brutal secrets of the "showers."

The opening of the film told the audience that, for this reason, the Sonderkommando were also known as the Geheimnisträger: "the bearers of secrets." Saul's work is about as heinous and shocking as anything could ever be, but he works without visible distress until he finds the body of a boy he thinks is his son. After that, the terminal stability of his life and the camp's quickly degenerates.

It should not really come as a surprise to anyone that this is a good movie. It is also one of the more visceral, gut-wrenching and shocking films in a genre that has no shortage of horror. What is unique about

the story of *Son of Saul* is the protagonist's position in the camp. As a Sonderkommando, Saul and the supporting cast are party to the most base and twisted acts of the Holocaust. The point-of-view that Saul's role offers is accented by the cinematography in the film. The camera remains fixed on Saul's face for the majority of the film, leaving the horrors in the background blurry. This framing makes the brutality seem mundane to Saul and thus, all the more shocking for the viewer. It also characterizes divisions amongst the Sonderkommandos, who like all prisoners, stand apart from one another in religion, nationality and language. Much of the dialogue is incomprehensible with voices used as background noise that the viewer eavesdrops on.

The director takes this perspective and uses it to horrifying effect. The opening scene of the film finds Saul and a group of Sonderkommando units ushering men, women and children off of a train and into the "showers." The men stand outside as the grey doors are locked, waiting patiently. The camera remains fixed on Saul's face for the whole scene, including the point at which the voices of those behind the doors turn into screams. Those screams are drowned out by a pounding on the walls so loud that it engulfed the theater, drowning out any other sound and thought —

GÉZA RÖHRIG/CC-BY-SA-2.0  
Géza Röhrig received critical acclaim as lead actor in *Son of Saul*.

and then it stops. The viewer sees Saul's face, mouth and nose covered by a rag. Behind him, in soft focus, a pile of naked bodies sits at the center of the room.

Compare this scene to the opening of *Saving Private Ryan*, which is thought of by many as being especially gory and hard to watch. The difference is in *Saving Private Ryan*, the soldiers are armed and stand a fighting chance — as it were.

In *Son of Saul*, the people forced into the gas chambers have nothing — no weapons, no plans, not even clothing. For that reason, the first fifteen minutes of *Son of Saul* are easily some of the most shocking in modern film. That short introduction is followed by an hour and a half of beautiful and simple acting, drama at the knife's edge and escalating tension that holds the audience hostage until the end.

Nemes' film is nothing if not worthy of its awards. Never has something so horrible been so gripping and somehow even beautiful. *Son of Saul* is an expression of humanity amongst the inhuman, shot with artistic contrast between foreground and background.

It is the story of a man placed in a uniquely horrible situation attempting to find a degree of morality within the evil he is involuntarily a part of. Saul is trying to draw a connection to someone or something in an environment where everyone is working together and against one another. Ultimately, he is surviving in a place of death. It seems unfair to delve into the plot of this film beyond the opening scene. So much more is at stake than the "son" Saul finds in the gas chamber. *Son of Saul* is a forest of subplots that the protagonist has to navigate to survive.

# Kendrick makes the most of shorter run-time

GUUS KROL/CC-BY-NC-ND-2.0  
Producer Adrian Younge contributed to a track for Kendrick's *untitled, unmastered* EP.

LAMAR, FROM B3  
Top Dawg Entertainment affiliate Punch hopped on the track with a strong verse that is the EP's strongest feature. Kendrick also welcomes Anna Wise back as she sings the song's hook.

"Untitled 06" has a surprising feature in CeeLo Green of Goodie Mob and Gnarls Barkley, considering Green's recent notoriety for his sexual assault

court cases as well as his comments in the wake of the case. Green gives new flavor and possibly breathes new life into his career with this track. The end result of Lamar and Green together is a smooth rap and R&B mix that will get your head nodding and arms moving.

"Untitled 07" is the EP's penultimate track and features a production with clear southern rap influences.

The track has a hard-hitting verse from Kendrick and a catchy hook/ad-lib that pulls listeners into the song.

Halfway through the song, the beat switches and eventually

fades out before becoming a politically fueled acoustic ballad by Kendrick. The track quality is fairly lo-fi, but that adds to the appeal that these tracks have in Kendrick's catalog, only released due to the demand for his music.

"Untitled, unmastered" also features the social commentary and funk mix that pulled together *Butterfly*, and this is most apparent on "untitled 08."

The song, which initially premiered on *The Tonight Show Starring Jimmy Fallon*, features the P-funk stylings and the boogie-tempting bassline that made the dance-able songs on *Butterfly* so poignant.

The EP comes to a close with that same echoing vignette that begins a number of tracks. "Pimp pimp, hooray" rings out in a celebratory tone and silence follows. With this release, anyone should be excited for what rap's current heavy-hitter has coming up for the near future.

*Untitled unmastered* isn't just a great statement for Kendrick; It stands as a strong statement for the entire Top Dawg Entertainment family (which includes rappers like Schoolboy Q and Isaiah Rashad). This EP exists as a companion piece to *Butterfly* and while it doesn't hit as hard as its sister project, anyone who considers himself a fan of hip-hop or Kendrick should definitely give this release a spin.

# Hopkins English Club event celebrates Caesar, Shakespeare

there would be free used books, but I don't think there were free books while I was there," she said.

Another element of the event was the chance to win a Barnes & Nobles gift card with Shakespeare's image on it. Students who attended the event entered their name into the raffle. This prize shows the English Club's commitment to books and

literature and their desire to share their passions with the student body.

In addition to the Ides of March celebration, the English Club also hosts a number of other events throughout the school year, including literary events and movie screenings of book-to-film adaptations.

One event last semester was a Secret Santa gathering in which the

club's presidents retrieved books and artifacts from the Special Collections section of the Milton S. Eisenhower Library (MSE) that members expressed interest in.

Another event that occurred in November was a tour of the MSE's conservation lab.

The club also seeks to bring news of local literary events to Hopkins students via emails to their

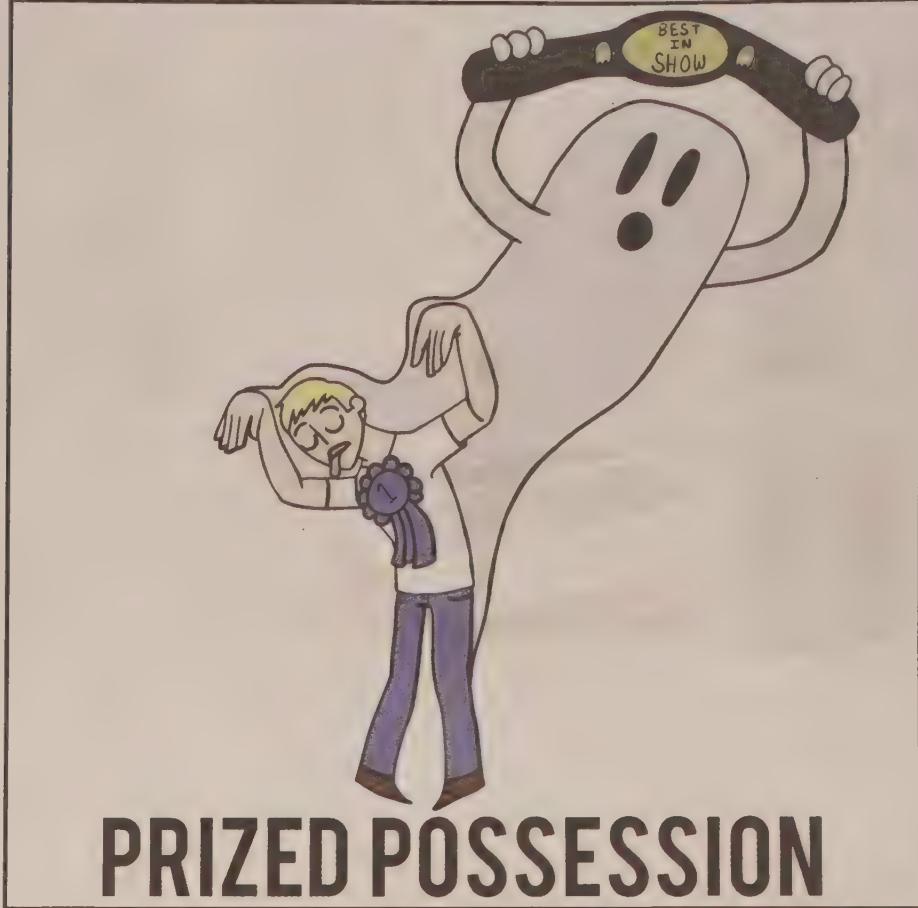
mailing list. They recently showed their support for the Baltimore community by providing updates at The Book Thing of Baltimore, a book swap store which was recently damaged by fire.

While the club is primarily for English and Writing Seminars majors, their events are open to any student that is interested in reading or writing.

# CARTOONS, ETC.

Grave Humor

By Stephanie Herrera



## PRIZED POSSESSION

Ginger Genius: A Hopkins Hero

By Stephanie Herrera



Students wanted for cartoons!

If you have any questions or have work to submit, please email  
[cartoons@jhunewsletter.com!](mailto:cartoons@jhunewsletter.com)

# SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

## New computers can gauge users' boredom

By SCOTT ZHENG  
For The News-Letter

Imagine that you have just gotten home after a long day of classes. It's a Tuesday afternoon and you decide to plop down on your couch, log on to Facebook, browse the first six pages of Reddit and then open up some lecture notes. However, you soon wake up and realize you've been asleep for three hours. All of a sudden you remember that you have a midterm tomorrow and a paper due on Friday. This situation may soon be a thing of the past because new research could lead to the development of a computer screen that keeps you awake when you need to be.

A research team led by Discipline Leader in Physiology at the Brighton and Sussex Medical School in Brighton, England, Dr. Harry Witchel, has discovered that computers can tell how engaged people are while staring at the screen by reading and quantifying their body language.

When people are uninterested in what is on their computer screens they generally exhibit very small, involuntary movements called non-instrumental movements. An

example is fidgeting with a computer's mouse. The opposite is also true. When someone is totally engaged and absorbed in what is displayed on the screen these non-instrumental movements stop.

In the study, a group of participants held a trackball that helped them reduce their

instrumental movements and looked at a computer screen that displayed varying degrees of stimulating activities for three minutes.

These activities ranged from intense computer games to monotonous readings. The subjects' non-instrumental movements were measured through video motion tracking. The more engaging activities showed a decrease of over 40 percent in these tiny move-

ments.

"Our study showed that when someone is really highly engaged in what they're doing they suppress these tiny involuntary movements. It's the same as when a small child, who is normally constantly on the go, stares gaping at cartoons on the television without moving a muscle," Witchel said in a press release.

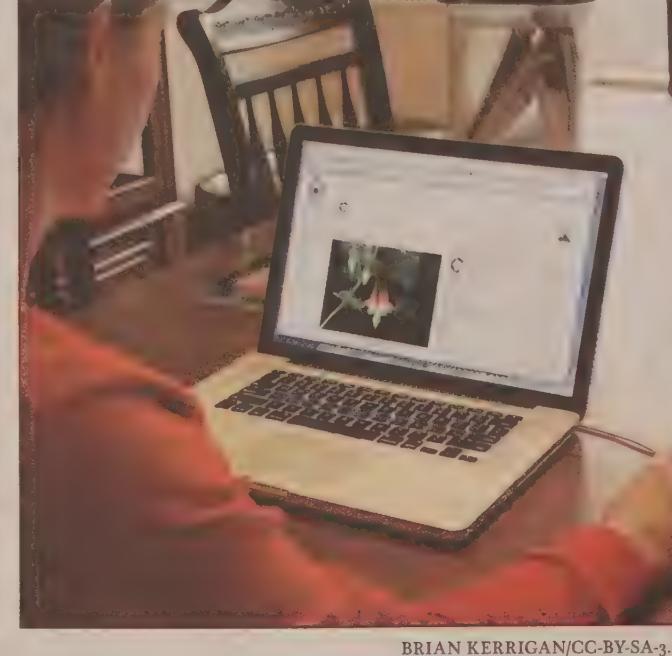
This discovery could lead to various developments of artificial intelligence in the future such as self-adapting online tutorial programs that change the style of tutoring to best suit the user's interests. Another potential development that could stem from this research involves the creation of companion robots, which can read what a person is thinking and provide them with tailored support. Witchel believes that such technology could be developed in the near future.

"Being able to 'read' a person's interest in a computer program could bring real benefits to future digital learning, making it a much more two-way process," Witchel said. "Further ahead it could help us create more empathetic companion robots, which may sound very 'sci-fi' but are becoming a realistic possibility within our lifetimes."

This discovery could also be useful for movie directors, as it could objectively observe movie watchers to determine whether they are engaged. Rather than subjectively asking viewers which scenes they found interesting, directors could instead quantify which scenes were the most interesting and which scenes needed more work on by tracking viewers' body language. The same technology could be applied to video games to make more absorbing and interactive games.

Computers can tell how engaged you are by reading and quantifying your body language.

BRIAN KERRIGAN/CC-BY-SA-3.0



## Scientists develop thinnest solar cells

By PAIGE FRANK  
Staff Writer

Scientists at Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) have created the thinnest existing solar cell, which is light enough to sit on top of a soap bubble without popping it.

Solar or photovoltaic cells convert the sun's light to electricity. They are currently used in many different contexts from large-scale operations such as powering water treatment plants and lighting systems to smaller uses like powering watches and calculators. The industry standard involves manufacturing the cells using a silicon semiconductor in a metal frame covered by a protective covering of silicon rubber or butyl plastic. High temperatures and powerful solvents are required in order to bind all of the components of the cell together. After they are constructed the solar cells must be covered in protective plastic or glass before they can be distributed and installed.

MIT Professor Vladimir Bulović, Research Scientist Annie Wang and Doctoral Student Joel Jean have discovered an innovation that modifies the production process of photovoltaic cells while simultaneously shattering previous size limits on the cells. An article published in the journal of *Organic Electronics* describes their path towards the creation of the lightest solar cells ever.

The key to their success lies in their modification of the growth process for

solar cells. They discovered a way to make the solar cell, the substrate that protects it and its protective overcoating all at once. In doing so all of the parts of the cell are fully formed without the cell ever being left vulnerable to the environment.

"The innovative step is the realization that you can grow the substrate at the same time as you grow the device," Bulović, associate dean for innovation and Fariborz Maseeh, professor of Emerging Technology at MIT, said in a press release.

For their initial experiments the team used a common polymer called parylene as both the substrate and the overcoating. Commercially parylene is commonly used to protect sensitive devices such as implanted biomedical devices and printed circuit boards. For the light-absorbing layer of the solar cells, the scientists chose an organic material called DBP. While DBP and parylene were used in testing, Bulović and his team stated that the process is not limited to any particular media. Many different thin-film solar cell materials ranging from quantum dots to perovskites could potentially replace the organic layers that were used in this experiment.

Countless substitutions exist for the substrate and encapsulation layers of solar panels. This new process is therefore adaptable depending on material availability.

The cell growth takes place in a vacuum. By combining all the steps of

SEE CELLS, PAGE B8

## Repurposed skin cells can help treat cancer

By TONY WU  
Senior Staff Writer

A recent breakthrough from researchers at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill has shed more light on a potential mechanism of treating cancer. Cancer in its most basic sense is a disease that involves abnormal and uncontrollable cell growth, but its complex biology makes treatment difficult. This challenge has spurred thousands of scientists to explore the mechanisms of cancer and work on developing more effective cures for the disease.

The World Health Organization (WHO) estimates that there were four million new cases of cancer and 8.2 million cancer-related deaths worldwide in 2012. There are over a hundred types of cancer and each is classified by the type of cell that is first affected by the disease. Despite their differences, most cancer cases develop through the same process of initiation,

promotion and progression. There are two groups of genes in every cell that are pertinent to the discussion of cancer, proto-oncogenes and tumor suppressor genes. Proto-oncogenes are usually inactivated in a cell, while tumor suppressor genes are expressed in a normal cell. During the initiation stage of carcinogenesis, proto-oncogenes can be activated and tumor suppressor genes can be deactivated, which promotes cancerous behavior such as uncontrolled cell growth. During promotion and progression, these mutated cells proliferate and the number of mutations in the cells increase.

Many factors can impact the degree and severity of these mutations, but there are three main theories of carcinogenesis. The gene mutation theory focuses on the role of gene mutations as the basis for developing cancerous cells. The theory of aneuploidy states that cancer

SEE CANCER, PAGE B9

## Monkeys control wheelchairs with their thoughts

By SABRINA CHEN  
Staff Writer

A recently developed brain-machine interface (BMI) allows monkeys to control and navigate a robotic wheelchair using only their thoughts. This project was conducted by a group of neuroscientists at Duke Health and published in the March 3 issue of *Scientific Reports*. It focuses specifically on hundreds of neurons in two regions of the brain that are involved in movement and sensation.

The experiment was carried out utilizing a food incentive: A bowl of fresh grapes. As the primates thought about moving toward the bowl of grapes, computers were able to translate their brain activity into real-time operation of a wheelchair.

The project began in 2012 with scientists implanting hundreds of hair-thin microfilaments into the premotor and somatosensory regions of the brains of two rhesus macaques. While scientists recorded the primates' large-scale electrical brain activity, the monkeys were trained to navigate the chair to

ward their goal — the bowl of grapes. A computer system was then programmed to translate their brain signals into digital motor commands that controlled the actual movements of a wheelchair.

More specifically the two monkeys were chronically implanted with multichannel microelectrode arrays. These arrays allowed for wireless recordings from different neurons in the premotor and sensorimotor cortical areas. The first trial consisted of the monkeys remaining seated in their robotic wheelchairs while passive navigation was done to train a linear decoder and extract 2-D wheelchair kinematics from the activity of their brains.

The next trial consisted of monkeys employing the wireless BMI to translate cortical activity into the robotic wheelchair's translational and rotational velocities. The researchers found that the navigation to the goal (the bowl of grapes) was due to activation of a population of cortical neurons tuned to whole-body displacement. These results particularly prove that intracranial



DANI REVI/PUBLIC DOMAIN

Monkeys with BMIs were able to navigate a robotic wheelchair.

BMIs could be used to restore whole-body mobility for severely paralyzed patients in the near future.

According to Miguel Nicolelis, co-director of the Duke Center for Neuroengineering, the monkeys learned to control the wheelchair just by thinking when given time and extensive training. Eventually they became more and more efficient at navigating towards their goal and

were able to complete trials in less time.

Furthermore Nicolelis said that the studies proved that brain signals were related not only to translational and rotational movements but also to the monkeys' distance from the bowl of grapes. This meant that the primates were able to contemplate the distance from their goal and adjust their thoughts accordingly.

SEE MONKEY, PAGE B9



IWAN GABOVITCH/CC-BY-2.0

Skin cells can be induced to form neural stem cells to target tumors.

# Coloring can be therapeutic for students

By REGINA PALATINI  
Senior Staff Writer

The next time you see a child coloring, take a moment and observe him or her. It may seem like this child is consumed with the experience and not showing any signs of stress or despair. Perhaps the child is even showing outward signs of enjoyment and relaxation. A recent movement suggests that coloring might have similar effects on adults as well.

The recent movement toward "adult" coloring is apparent when one visits bookstores. Lavish displays of coloring books and colored pencils have taken center stage, relegating the best-sellers to tables in the back of the store. A recent search of "adult coloring books" on Amazon yielded over 22,000 results, with titles ranging from "Calm the F\*\*k Down, an Irreverent Adult Coloring Book," to "Fifty Shades of Fun: The New Joy of Coloring." *The Guardian* recently reported that the top sellers on Amazon's U.K. site are coloring books for grown-ups.

New research suggests that coloring can also reduce college students' stress and ultimately help to improve their GPAs.

David Sandmire and others at the University of New England recently published an article in *Art Therapy: Journal of the American Art Therapy Association* that examined the psychological effects of art-making in a

sample of 57 undergraduate students. One week before their final exams, the students were randomly assigned to either a control group or an art-making group. The art-making exercises included coloring pre-designed mandalas. Before and after participating in this experiment, both groups of students were administered the State-Trait Anxiety Inventory, which is a commonly used measure of two different forms of anxiety. The mean state anxiety score decreased significantly after the students in the experimental group participating in coloring. No difference was found in the control group. The researchers concluded that a brief period of art-making can significantly reduce a person's state of anxiety.

When we color, different areas of our two cerebral hemispheres are activated, according to psychologist Gloria Martinez Ayala.

"The action involves both logic, by which we color forms, and creativity, when mixing and



Coloring can be an enjoyable and relaxing activity for students who are stressed.

CHEVRE/CC-BY-SA-3.0

matching colors. This incorporates the areas of the cerebral cortex involved in vision and fine motor skills. The relaxation that it provides lowers the activity of the amygdala, a basic part of our brain involved in controlling emotion that is affected by stress," Martinez Ayala told *The Huffington Post*.

Basically, when we focus on a particular activity, we are unable to focus on other thoughts, such as our worries. Coloring provides us with an enjoyable and productive activity to focus on, in place of our anxieties. It also reminds us of our childhood, a time in which most of us experienced significantly less stress.

Johanna Basford, a Scottish illustrator whose 2013 book "Secret Garden: An Inky Treasure Hunt and Coloring Book" sold nearly 1.5 million copies

worldwide, agreed that the power of adult coloring books can lie in their ability to remind users of a more carefree age.

"I think there's definitely a nostalgic charm to coloring and various other childlike pursuits that are becoming popular with adults," Basford told *Slate*. "In some ways I think this is because it allows us to regress to a mindset when times were carefree and we didn't have grown-up worries such as making rent payments or an annoying boss at work! It's good to play. You rarely see a stressed out 7-year old!"

So, perhaps some coloring breaks during finals crunch can help reduce stress and help us tackle our exams in a more relaxed state. The research suggests that it's worth a try.

# Paroxetine improves cognitive function

By SCOTT ZHENG  
For The News-Letter

Researchers at the Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine have discovered that paroxetine, an antidepressant, is able to improve cognitive function in patients suffering from HIV-associated cognitive impairment.

Currently, many HIV patients on antiretroviral drugs (drugs that prevent the proliferation of these viruses) suffer from cognitive impairment. The reduced cognitive function is derived from an infection that causes inflammation in the brain. This inflammation leads to damaged nerves, which affects cognitive abilities such as learning, decision-making and motor coordination.

From the clinical results of the experiment, the researchers not only discovered that the HIV positive participants who took paroxetine performed better on the cognitive tests than their HIV positive counterparts who did not take the medication, but those with HIV who took paroxetine also had higher cognitive ability scores, on average, than those of the HIV negative population. This suggests that the medication could potentially have impacts on other populations that display low cognitive ability scores.

"Over a period of 20 years and after 10 clinical trials, this is the first time we've been able to clearly demonstrate benefit in a summary measure of cognitive performance for patients with HIV-associated neurocognitive disorders," Ned Sacktor, lead author and professor of neurology at the Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine, said in a press release.

In this clinical trial, the research team chose to experiment with two FDA-approved drugs, paroxetine and fluconazole. Paroxetine is a selective serotonin reuptake inhibitor (SSRI) — a class of antidepressants that prevents serotonin, the "happiness" hormone, from being reabsorbed by the nerve synapse that released it, resulting in an increase in the concentration of serotonin that is available to bind to and stimulate the receptors of the recipient cell. Fluconazole is an antifungal. These drugs were both shown to prevent cell death in cultures of rat neurons and hypothesized to show potential for reducing inflammation.

So, perhaps some coloring breaks during finals crunch can help reduce stress and help us tackle our exams in a more relaxed state. The research suggests that it's worth a try.

Keith McArthur, director of the Department of Neurology at Johns Hopkins University Medicine, said in a press release.

The research team collected quantitative measurements for cognitive ability of a group of 45 patients with HIV through several neuropsychological assessments. These tests evaluated the motor skills and decision-making performances of the study participants. The average of all test results gives a score, called the NPZ8, that relates HIV positive test scores to HIV negative test scores.

From the clinical results of the experiment, the researchers not only discovered that the HIV positive participants who took paroxetine performed better on the cognitive tests than their HIV positive counterparts who did not take the medication, but those with HIV who took paroxetine also had higher cognitive ability scores, on average, than those of the HIV negative population. This suggests that the medication could potentially have impacts on other populations that display low cognitive ability scores.

In addition to the NPZ8 scores, another test quantifying reaction time, called the California Computerized Assessment Package (CalCAP), showed similar results to the other tests. Participants who were given paroxetine had higher reaction times, while those who were not given the drug had similar reaction times to the HIV-negative control group. Once again, this suggests that the drug does not simply reduce inflammation — there could be an additional mechanism of the SSRI that has not yet been discovered.

Furthermore the results of the laboratory data confirmed that the drug treatments reduced inflammation — blood samples from the patients that were taken at the start of the study had greater quantities of inflammatory proteins than the blood samples that were taken 24 weeks after the medication was first prescribed.

The usage of paroxetine did result in several side effects commonly found in SSRIs, including headaches, insomnia and sexual dysfunction. It should be noted that several study participants experienced these adverse side effects and dropped out of the study.

Unfortunately the other drug involved in the study, fluconazole, did not display the same benefits of cognitive function that paroxetine did. The next step for research of SSRIs impact on cognitive function would most likely include further studies that compare paroxetine alone to a placebo.

# New solar cells are lighter than soap bubbles

CELLS, FROM B7

the process, Bulović was able to ensure that the substrate was never handled or removed from the vacuum during fabrication. Isolating the substrate in the vacuum prevents it from being exposed to dust and other various potential contaminants. Not only does Bulović's new solar cell solution simplify the steps involved in solar cell creation, but it also removes the need for intense heat and chemicals. In the vacuum-sealed chamber, the cells are formed at room temperature and without the use of solvents.

Using these new techniques, the researchers have created the thinnest, lightest solar cells ever. To demonstrate the validity of the claim, the cells were draped on top of a soap bubble without popping the bubble.

"If you breathe too hard, you might blow it away," Jean said in a press release.

The researchers spent

miracles does it take to make it scalable? We think it's a lot of hard work ahead, but likely no miracles needed."

It is already possible to safely deposit the tiny layers of parylene film that back the cells using existing commercial



Researchers have created a solar cell, formed in a climate controlled sealed chamber.

equipment. The parylene film covering the cells is approximately 80 microns across, which is one-tenth the thickness of kitchen cling-wrap.

To form the cells, the parylene is first deposited on a sturdy carrier material. For testing purposes, the researchers deposited the film on glass, but multiple materials can be used for this step. The tricky part of the procedure is later separating the thin

is one-fiftieth the thickness of a human hair, and one-thousandth the thickness of current solar cells.

"We put our carrier in a vacuum system, then we deposit everything else on top of it, and then peel the whole thing off," Wang said in a press release.

These ultra-light cells could potentially be placed on anything from smartphones to T-shirts to a piece of paper. Their size is such that they would be almost unnoticeable. In fields where weight is sensitive, such as spacecraft operations or research using high-altitude helium balloons, the benefit of the light-as-air cells could be substantial.

"It could be so light

that you don't even know it's there, on your shirt or on your notebook," Bulović said. "These cells could simply be an add-on to existing structures."

"We think it's a lot of hard work ahead, but likely no miracles needed."

—VLADIMIR BULOVIC,

MIT PROFESSOR

material from the glass. To do so, a flexible film frame is used to lift the entire system off of the surface of the glass. The final product, the cell,



JUSTINLING/CC-BY-2.0

Paroxetine can improve cognitive function in patients with HIV.

## SCIENCE &amp; TECHNOLOGY

# Researchers search for key to brain diversity

By MANISH PARANJPE  
Senior Staff Writer

The brain is a diverse organ that forms the basis of learning, memory, behavior and personality. Structural differences in the brain among individuals can help account for differences in how we act, think and look.

However, while neuroscientists in the past have been able to trace the basis of specific traits such as memory, researchers have failed to explain just how we are so cognitively and phenotypically diverse. New research conducted at the Beckman Institute for Advanced Science and Technology at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign uncovered traits in the brain that may explain our cognitive and phenotypic diversity. It was published in *NeuroImage*.

The researchers began by using neuroimaging methods, such as Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI) and tests of memory, to assess several properties of the participants' mental ability and brain structure. The use of MRI allowed Aron Barbey, the leader of the study and director of the Decision Neuroscience Laboratory at the Beckman Institute, and his team to examine different structures and characteristics of the brain, such as nerve fiber bundles, white-matter tracts, volume, cortical thickness and blood flow.

Cognitive testing also allowed them to assess participants' working memory, executive memory, episodic memory and fluid intelligence, among other measures. In line with past studies, Barbey and his colleagues found a large variation in these measurements among individuals.

After plotting the correlation between each measurement, the team was able to divide its data into four large traits based on their level of relatedness using Independent Component Analysis (ICA). By doing this, Barbey and his colleagues found that their four groups of traits were able to account for 58 percent of the structural variation in the participants. This analysis, however, could not explain the cognitive differences between individuals.

The team then set out to account for differences

in learning and memory between the study's participants. By performing another ICA analysis that only considered the cognitive differences not explained by the four traits, the group was able to uncover specific anatomical characteristics that explained differences in learning and memory between participants. Specifically, Barbey found that gray matter regions, white matter fiber tracts and networks in the superior parietal and frontal regions of the brain are strongly related to cognitive variables such as episodic memory and executive function.

"A major focus of research in cognitive neuroscience is understanding how intelligence is shaped by individual differences in brain structure and function," Aron Barbey told the *Illinois News Bureau*.

Barbey's research represents the first successful effort at characterizing the individual variation among our brains. His work may allow scientists to explain the differences in intelligence among humans.

"Brains are as different as faces, and this study helped us understand what a 'normal' brain looks like," Patrick Watson, a postdoctoral researcher at the Beckman Institute and primary author of the paper, said. "By looking for unexpected brain differences, we were able to home in on parts of the brain related to things like memory and intelligence."

The researchers' approach to studying the brain also represents a new data-driven era of neuroscience. By using computational and statistical tools such as ICA, scientists may be able to detect underlying sources of variation that are invisible to traditional neuroimaging methods. Integrating computers with neuroscience may lead to novel ways to study the brain, according to Stephen Koslow, former director of the Division of Basic and Clinical Neuroscience at the National Institute of Mental Health.

"What we are attempting to do is take advantage of the advances in computer and communications technologies to develop tools to study (the brain and nervous system) at different levels," Koslow told *The Scientist*.

# Organs may also have sexual identities

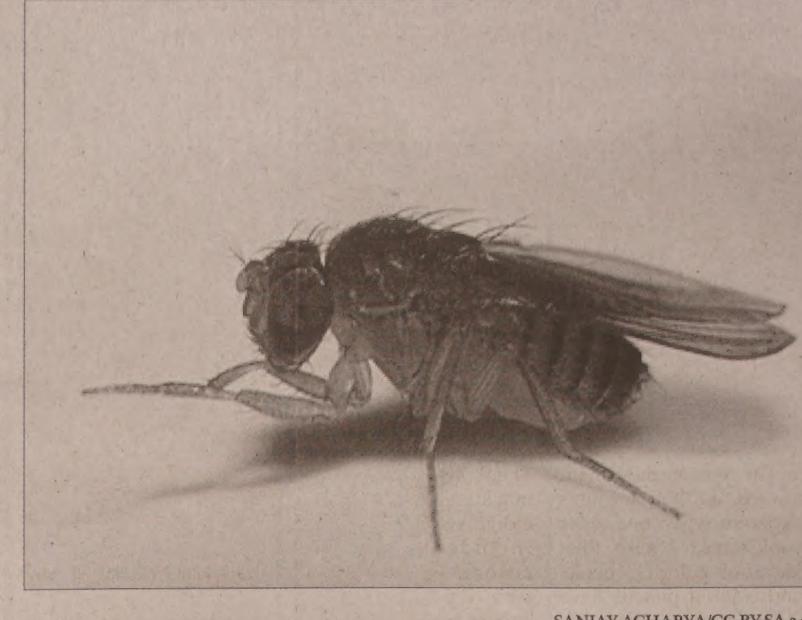
By ADARSHA MALLA  
Staff Writer

Currently, it is commonly thought that the cells in the non-reproductive organs of both sexes are relatively similar — and that any difference in lung or heart or liver function is due solely to the different hormones that circulate in males and females.

However, researchers, supported by the Medical Research Council (MRC) at the MRC Clinical Sciences Centre (CSC) at Imperial College London, have published findings in the journal *Nature* suggesting that cells in non-reproductive organs have genes that may differentiate them into "male" and "female" organs, independent of any hormones present in the organism. The sexual nature of the differentiated cells was found to affect their function.

"We wanted to ask a very basic question: Whether it is just the cells of the sex organs of a fully developed

organism that 'know' their sexual identity, or whether this is true of cells in other organs too — and whether that matters," Irene Miguel-Aliaga told *The MRC CSC*.



SANJAY ACHARYA/CC-BY-SA-3.0

Researchers modified the gene expression of the gut cells of fruit flies to change the cells' sex.

gut of fruit flies. Using techniques to modulate gene expression, the researchers were able to prompt the cells to be more "female" or more "male" by "turning on" or "turning off" genes found in male or female sex cells. Upon making this change, the scientists observed how this affected the function and metabolism of these cells.

They found that one of the biggest effects of gene expression modulation was the rate of cell proliferation. Female cells, or cells that have been "feminized," were found to proliferate better than male cells.

The researchers believe that the female cells' enhanced ability

to multiply allows the intestine of female flies to grow after mating and during reproduction. Miguel-Aliaga has also speculated that, in humans, the female gut could also be physically enlarged and metabolically modulated in order to support a fetus. While this enlargement in size is hypothesized to ensure more nutrition for a developing fetus, the more rapidly proliferating cells could also leave females, fruit flies or otherwise, more prone to develop tumors and even cancer.

"We find it's a lot easier to create genetically-induced tumors in females than in males. So we suspect there is a trade-off going on. Females need this increased plasticity to cope with reproduction, but in certain circumstances that can be deleterious and make the female gut more prone to tumors," Miguel-Aliaga said.

Through this research project, the team also identified a new mechanism behind sex-switching, which was seen in more cells than was previously expected. This mechanism is different from the recognized cascade that is active in sex cells. Interestingly, this recognized cascade is not active in the gut stem cells, suggesting that some other unknown mechanism of sexual determination is at play.

The discovery of this new mechanism begs the question of whether cells across a variety of organs in flies and mammals may have a sexual identity and whether this identity affects their reaction to treatments. If so, more research on this phenomenon can provide clinicians and researchers with a whole new perspective on how to tailor the treatment of organ-based diseases to specific organs in different individuals.

# Neural stem cells can target cancer cells

CANCER, FROM B7

is caused by compounds called carcinogens. The affected cells create daughter cells that have abnormal numbers of chromosomes. The last theory, called the epigenetic theory, states that the normal processes of DNA methylation can introduce mutations that can ultimately cause cancer.

Although these three theories diverge widely on their predicted causes of carcinogenesis, many scientists agree that combinations of these theories likely drive the development of cancer.

To treat the wide variety of cancers affecting the population, physicians employ methods

such as chemotherapy, radiation and surgery, but increasingly, there has been a movement toward personalized treatment plans. Currently, cancer patients experience a wide range of outcomes even when treated with the same regimens.

To address the need for better treatments, researchers at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill developed a treatment that reprograms skin cells, specifically fibroblasts that produce collagen and connective tissue, into induced neural stem cells. This treatment is shown to attack cancer cells more effectively, as one difficulty in treating

glioblastoma, or cancer of the brain or spine, is the tendency for the cancer to develop in areas of the brain that are difficult to reach using conventional cancer therapies.

In this experiment, the researchers demonstrated that these induced neural stem cells could move throughout the brain and kill cancer cells that remain after surgery. The researchers also showed that the stem cells can be engineered to produce and deliver tumor-killing proteins as therapeutic agents.

By eliminating the remaining cancer cells, there is a lower chance of cancer remission, which increases the

patient survival rate.

Though the treatment shows promise, there are still obstacles to overcome. Mainly, the effectiveness of the stem cell treatment in humans has yet to be proven.

There is also the existing difficulty of maintaining stem cells in a target without supporting matrices, which are designed to ensure that the stem cells are well-organized and can be retained; without them, the staying power of the cells is low.

Now, the researchers are turning their focus onto human stem cells. They also plan to test whether more effective tumor-killing drugs can be loaded into the tumor-seeking neural stem cells.

# Monkeys can move objects with their thoughts

MONKEY, FROM B7

"This was not a signal that was present in the beginning of the training, but something that emerged as an effect of the monkeys becoming proficient in this task," Nicolelis said in a press release. "This was a surprise. It demonstrates the brain's enormous flexibility to assimilate a device, in this case a wheelchair, and that device's spatial relationships to the surrounding world."

Following the trials that measured the activity of nearly 300 neurons in the two monkeys, the team plans to expand their experiment in order to record more neural signals. Furthermore, the team will experiment on increasing the accuracy of the primate BMI before looking to do any trials on humans.

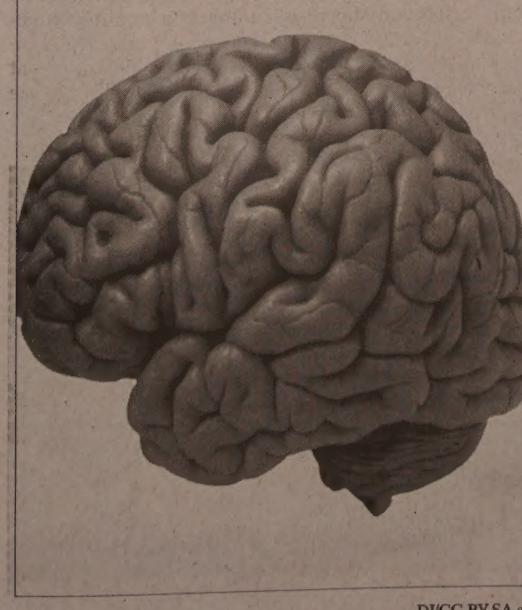
Nevertheless, Nicolelis said that the study has tremendous impli-

cations for people with disabilities who have lost control of their muscles due to quadriplegia or Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS).

Up to this point, only noninvasive BMI approaches, mostly based on Electroencephalography (EEG), have enabled direct brain control over wheelchair navigation. Few studies have previously attempted to apply Nicolelis's intracranial

BMI approach to wheelchair control.

"In some severely disabled people, even blinking is not possible," Nicolelis said. "For them, using a wheelchair or device controlled by noninvasive measures like an EEG may not be sufficient. We show clearly that if you have intracranial implants, you get better control of a wheelchair than with noninvasive devices."



Structural differences in the brain may explain our cognitive diversity.

DJ/CC-BY-SA-2.0

## SPORTS

## BLUE JAY SPORTS SCOREBOARD

M. Lacrosse	M. Fencing	M. B-Ball	M. Tennis
March 3, 2016	March 3, 2016	March 6, 2016	March 6, 2016
vs. Princeton	@ MACFA Championship 2nd Place	vs. Cortland	@ Washington & Lee
M, 17-7		L, 4-2	W, 6-3
M. Tennis	W. Lacrosse	W. Lacrosse	Baseball
March 5, 2016	March 5, 2016	March 2, 2016	March 3, 2016
vs. Morgan State	vs. Ohio State	vs. UPenn	@ Salisbury
W, 5-4	L, 8-7	L, 11-77	W, 9-5

## Hopkins Athletics Hall of Fame: New Inductees

By ANDREW  
JOHNSON  
Staff Writer

Over the course of this University's storied athletic history that dates back well into the past century, there have been many talented and dedicated athletes who have proudly sported the blue and black. These competitors have lead their teams to Conference Championships, national titles, have set numerous school records, and have represented the Blue Jays with class, dignity and professionalism during their time on the field and continuing well after graduation into their professional endeavors. To commemorate the achievements of these remarkable alumni, the Johns Hopkins University established its Athletics Hall of Fame in 1994. Now in its 22nd year of operation, the hall has commemorated the athletic achievements and contributions made by 176 former athletes, coaches and administrators who now are forever immortalized in Blue Jay lore. The 2016 class is composed of eight new members who will be inducted into the Hall on Saturday, April 30.

Each of the eight inductees has left their own unique and enduring legacy on Hopkins Athletics, and while a few short remarks will not be able to fully encompass the scope of their achievements, it is important nonetheless to recognize them for their contributions to the betterment of the Hopkins athletic community.

Tom Calder is just the third director of athletics to serve at the University since 1950, and 2016 marks his 21st year in this role. In 2014, he was recognized as one of four winners of the Division III NACDA Under Armour Athletic Directors of the Year. Under his watchful eye, the Blue Jays have won five national championships and 129 Centennial Conference titles, and he has focused tirelessly on keeping Hopkins athletic facilities in state-of-

the-art condition.

Matt Campbell, Class of 2005, ended his four-year football career for the Jays as one of the most accomplished defensive players in the history of the program. He was first team All-Centennial as a play-making safety in each of his final three seasons, ranks second in all-time career interceptions with 16, and starred on a 2003 squad which recorded the first 10-win season in program history.

Matt Doran, Class of 2002, is one of the most prolific goal scorers in the history of the men's soccer program and starred on the squad during one of its most dynamic four-year runs in program history. The Blue Jays dominated Centennial competition during the four-year stretch from 1999-2002, recording an overall mark of 65-11-4, two Centennial titles and an appearance in the NCAA quarterfinals. His 70 goals and 28 assists rank second all-time in program history in each category, while his record-setting 2000 season saw him score a single-season record 27 goals to go along with eight assists.

Kyle Harrison, Class of 2005, is one of the greatest players to have ever suited up for the storied Hopkins men's lacrosse program, leading the team on one of its greatest four-year runs in program history from 2002 to 2005. He was a three time All-American, a two-time recipient of the McLaughlin Award for national midfielder of the year, and the 2005 recipient of the Tewaaraton and Enners Awards when he was recognized as the nation's best player. The Jays went 55-6 during his time on the squad, receiving the overall no. 1 seed in the NCAA tournament each year between 2002 and 2005. During the 2005 season, the Jays redeemed themselves after some disappointing tournament finishes with a perfect 16-0 record, and the first national title for the program since 1987.

In his final game for the Jays, he scored two goals against Duke and ended his career as a national champion.

Brian Mead, Class of 2004, is one of the greatest individuals to come out of the incredibly successful Hopkins water polo squad, setting numerous school records over the course of his remarkable run as a Blue Jay. He was a four time All-American, and led the team in goals during each of his four seasons on the team. His 100-goal season in 2004 remained a school record for over a decade, and he capped his career with 399 career points, which stood as the highest in program history until 2012. The program tallied 67 wins over the four year period between 2001 and 2004, the most successful mark in school history up until that point in time. The Jays also won three Division III Eastern Championships during Mead's time on the squad.

Heidi Pearce, Class of 2004, entered the Hopkins women's lacrosse program during a time of incredible transition, and was instrumental in shaping its development into a perennial Division 1 force. Coming to campus just two years after the team jumped to the Division 1 level, Pearce shined as a two-way midfielder. She was named the first 1st team Division I All American in program history, and led the squad to its first Division I NCAA tournament appearance in 2004. Her 201 total points (152 goals, 49 assists) rank most ever among midfielders in program history, while she also shined defensively, setting program records in total ground balls (230) and forced turnovers (109). Since her departure from the squad in 2004, the women's team has developed into a consistent Division I powerhouse, and much of this enduring success must be attributed to her remarkable legacy.

Jerry Pfeifer, Class of 1965, is one of the most multi-dimensional tal-

ents in the history of the Hopkins Athletics program, masquerading as a two-sport star during his time as an undergraduate, while also becoming one of the greatest Lacrosse coaches in Blue Jay history. He played on the varsity lacrosse and football teams, earning three All-American selections as an attackman, leading the team in goals and points in each of his three seasons. In football, he played quarterback, while also stepping in as both a punter and kicker when he was called upon. He set records for most passing yards, touchdown passes, completions and attempts, and as a coach later led the team to a season high 7 victories in 1981, a mark which would stand until 2002. He also served as the Head Men's Lacrosse Coach, compiling a 103-16 record between 1981 and 1989, and winning national titles in 1984, 85, and 87.

Karl Sineath, Class of 2002, was one of the best all-around performers in the history of men's baseball, and stood out both on the field and in the classroom during his time as a Jay. He is one of two players in program history with 170 career hits and 170 career runs scored, while recording a school record 98 stolen bases. His teams won three Centennial Championships and made three NCAA tournament appearances. He also was named All-Centennial Conference three times and was a CoSIDA Academic All District team recipient three times as well. He is just one of two players to have won this impressive academic award a total of three times in their career.

All of these athletes and administrators truly embody the spirit of Blue Jay athletics, and it is with great appreciation that they are welcomed into the Athletics Hall of Fame. To secure a reservation for the ceremony, call Meredith Rosenblatt at (410) 516-0412 or make an online reservation through Blue Jays Unlimited.

## Major League Baseball promises a great year

*MLB, FROM B12*  
who knows what Mattingly's club could do. The Braves and Phillies are in a race for who can win 70 games — neither is a popular choice.

## NL Central

1. Chicago Cubs
2. St. Louis Cardinals
3. Pittsburgh Pirates
4. Cincinnati Reds
5. Milwaukee Brewers

The Cubs shocked the world last year with their run to the NLCS, and anything short of a World Series trip will be a disappointment. The Cardinals are always solid, and with the way they play, they could somehow win 95 games, especially with Wainwright back in the mix. The Pirates will be in contention again, as they're still a premier club. The Reds and Brewers, however, will be utterly horrendous.

## NL West

1. San Francisco Giants
2. Arizona Diamondbacks
3. Los Angeles Dodgers
4. San Diego Padres
5. Colorado Rockies

It's an even year, meaning it's the Giants year, right? The Giants are betting their staff can right the ships of Johnny Cueto and Jeff Samardzija; if they can, they will be a World Series contender. The D'Backs made a lot of noise this off-season, and I think that'll translate to wins.

A Greinke-Miller-Corbin rotation with an offense led by AJ Pollack and Paul Goldschmidt is one hell of a team. The Dodgers look to be solid, but losing Greinke was huge. Scott Kazmir and Kenta Maeda aren't THAT good. Finally, the Padres again will be mediocre and the Rockies will waste another year of Nolan Arenado and Carlos Gonzalez's careers.

## AL East

1. Toronto Blue Jays
2. New York Yankees
3. Tampa Bay Rays
4. Baltimore Orioles
5. Boston Red Sox

This division is by far the hardest to pick. There aren't any bad teams. Honestly, the Red Sox could finish in first, and I wouldn't be surprised.

However, the Blue Jays look to be the strongest here, with a solid pitching staff and the best offense in the universe.

The Yanks surprised me last year and I'm expecting more of the same after improving this off-season with the addition

tions of Starlin Castro, Aroldis Chapman and Aaron Hicks. Tampa has the best pitching staff in the division but no offense.

Baltimore has a great lineup but incredibly mediocre pitching. Boston has another good team on paper, but until these egos figure it out, they seem like the most likely to implode in the division.

## AL Central

1. Kansas City Royals
2. Cleveland Indians
3. Chicago White Sox
4. Minnesota Twins
5. Detroit Tigers

Kansas City knows how to win now, which is a scary thought. These guys are a complete team. Cleveland will be fun to watch this year with the staff they have and a full year out of SS Francisco Lindor.

Chicago snagging

Todd Frazier and Brett Lawrie was big, and they're banking on a big year from Carlos Rodon. Minnesota was a shocker last year in second place, but I'm expecting that to fade somewhat this year. Finally, the Tigers are another team that has the ability to implode.

They're overpaid, and they were bad with Yoenis Cespedes and David Price last year — do you think Justin Upton and Jordan Zimmermann make them that much better?

## AL West

1. Houston Astros
2. Texas Rangers
3. Seattle Mariners
4. Los Angeles Angels
5. Oakland A's

Houston and Texas will again battle it out for the division this year, and it'll be fun to watch. Carlos Correa is going to be a monster this year, but Texas will have a staff led by Cole Hamels and Yu Darvish. Scary.

Seattle is much improved and stable, so I think they will be better this year. Other than Mike Trout, the Angels are extremely overrated. Finally, Oakland just doesn't have enough to contend here.

## Wild Cards

NL: Cardinals, Pirates  
AL: Rangers, Indians

## MVPs

NL: Buster Posey

AL: Carlos Correa

Cy Young

NL: Clayton Kershaw

AL: Chris Sale

## World Series

Astros over Mets



RACHEL HAMRICK/CC-BY-SA-2.0  
Buster Posey will have another MVP-caliber season for the Giants.

## SPORTS

# Golden State keeps dominating the NBA

WARRIORS, FROM B12 seven-game series in the First Round.

The Warriors were good, but not quite at that upper-tier where they needed to be in order to be seriously considered as a championship contender. They just needed a tweak to solidify their spot among the NBA's elite.

That tweak was the controversial replacement of Coach Jackson with Steve Kerr, a move that is not looking too controversial anymore.

Now, we have reached the point when everybody has jumped on the Warriors bandwagon. To sum it up, Curry took the league by storm during the 2014-2015 season, winning the MVP — along with a handful of other accolades — and leading the Warriors to both a league-best 67-15 record and to a championship over LeBron James and the Cleveland Cavaliers. After the season, many criticized Golden State, saying that the only reason that they won it all was because their opponents were facing injuries (e.g., their opponents in the Finals, the Cavaliers, were missing stars Kyrie Irving and Kevin Love).

These criticisms undoubtedly fueled the Warriors, as this season has been better than last in every way. The Warriors are on a historic winning pace, as they look to overtake Kerr's 1995-1996 Chicago Bulls for the best single season record of all-time, which currently stands at 72-10.

Curry is not only on his way to another MVP award, but may actually be named as the Most Improved Player as well. For the stats people, his numbers are staggering, but you really have to watch this guy to see why he is being labeled the greatest shooter of all-time.

Curry has redefined long-distance shooting, setting the record for most three-pointers in a season in 2012-2013, before topping it in 2014-2015, and again this season during that Oklahoma City game. Yeah, he broke the record in February, two months before the end of the season. The accuracy that he shoots with over such a large quantity of attempts is unparalleled by that of any other basketball player, and actually of that by any other athlete for any other statistic in general. Mavericks owner Mark Cuban even said that the three-point line should be moved back, due to the prevalence of the three-point shot in today's game, which is headlined by Curry's nightly, extraordinary performances from beyond the arc.

The only thing left to ask is what Steph's numbers would look like if he ever had to play significant minutes in the fourth quarter — which rarely happens due to all of Golden State's blowout wins.

Off the court, Curry is just as impressive. In an era defined by professional athletes making highly questionable decisions, Steph does all of the right things. He has a record that is clean as a whistle (or his jump-shot!), he always smiles, he has made his family just as popular as him (if not more) and,

most of all, he has made it seem like anyone can do what he does. After all, he is just a little over six feet tall and does not have superhero-esque muscles like most NBA stars; He just puts in the work and continues to polish his game.

Enough about the best player in the game, let's talk about his supporting cast. It takes a lot more than one player to have the best team of all time and Golden State has quite a balanced attack behind Steph.

First, Klay Thomson, Steph's "Splash Brother," is not too shabby of a shooter either. He knocked off Curry in this year's Three-Point Contest and had the 10th most threes in a season in NBA history last year. His greatest individual achievement though, was his record-breaking 37-point third quarter last season, during which he made all 13 of his shots, including all nine of his threes. Are you kidding?

Then there is Draymond Green, the 35th pick in the 2012 draft, who has transformed into one of the league's greatest triple-double threats and a defensive juggernaut, after being a complete nobody during his first two seasons in the league. It is Green's inspiring energy and passion, as well as his grit, which drive the Warriors on a regular basis on their ascent into the record books.

By the way, none of those guys even won last year's NBA Finals MVP award. That honor belongs to Andre Iguodala, who appeared to be on the decline before signing with the Warriors in 2013. He took home the prestigious award last season after not even being a starter going into the Finals.

The rest of the cast — highlighted by Harrison Barnes, Andrew Bogut, Festus Ezeli and Marreese Speights (among others) — is mostly made up of players who at some point or another were given up on. However, they have found a home in the Bay Area on a team that is now jam-packed with stars but is defined by absolute selflessness. Every night I am confident picking the Warriors to win, but I cannot possibly predict who will lead the way on any given night.

The coaching deserves a ton of credit as well. With Kerr suffering from back problems at the beginning of this season, assistant coach Luke Walton led Golden State to a 39-4 record before Kerr returned and elevated Golden State's level of play even more. Through the end of February, they had lost only one game since Kerr's return in January, one.

The Warriors have not lost a home game since last January, they have destroyed the Spurs, they have pummeled the Cavaliers and, other than when they have played close games against the Thunder and the Clippers, they have appeared seemingly invincible against the entirety of the league.

"Dub Nation" and Curry are here to stay.

And if Kevin Durant actually signs with Golden State this summer, there will be — as the Miami Heat "Big 3" had promised — not two [titles], not three, not four, not...

## ATHLETE OF THE WEEK TESS MEEHAN — WOMEN'S TRACK

By EMILIE HOFFER  
For The News-Letter

Tess Meehan is one of seven Hopkins athletes who will be competing at the 2016 NCAA D-III Indoor Track & Field Championships held on March 11 and 12.

The junior and former indoor track All-American will race the 3000m and anchor the women's distance medley relay after qualifying for NCAAs this past weekend.

Meehan will be joined in the DMR by sophomore Caroline Smith, senior Megan McDonald and junior Lindsay Cheu. The relay has the second fastest time in the country this year after their performance from last weekend. Meehan dominated her leg of the relay, anchoring with a sub-five mile.

*The News-Letter* sat down with Meehan to discuss her NCAAs qualifying race, her preparations going into nationals and her athletic career so far at Hopkins.

*The News-Letter*: Explain the team's mindset going into the race this past weekend.

**Tess Meehan:** The girls and I were actually pretty calm considering it was our last chance to qualify for Nationals. We definitely all had nerves, but I think it actually helped that we hadn't raced the DMR together in a couple weeks. We all knew we needed to improve a lot since our last race, so our time at the end of the day gave us a nice confidence boost.

**N-L:** How does the team look heading into Nationals?

**TM:** We are really excited with how much time we were able to take off in our race last weekend. There is definitely some pressure going into NCAAs ranked so high, but we are all trying to stay relaxed and just see what we can do.

I think we can definitely drop a couple more seconds next week when we are rested and have that extra level of excitement.

**N-L:** Are there any teammates, friends or family that you look to for inspiration?

**TM:** It is really nice to be able to train with

girls like Frances Leob and Sophia (Meehan's older sister) in previous years, and this past season training with Hannah O'neal and Jordan Delane has been awesome.

It really helps pushing each other and improving together. Everyone on the team works so hard and it makes you want to do the same.

**N-L:** What are your personal goals for the rest of the season?

**TM:** Personally I think I am going to try and see what I have left for the 3K on Saturday, but I would really like the DMR to try and get All-American. I think we have a great shot especially if we race the way we did last week.

**N-L:** Looking ahead, what do you hope to get out of your Hopkins career?

**TM:** I would really love for us to win Nationals again next year in cross country. This year was really disappointing, and I am very fortunate to have been on such a supportive team with some of my best friends to help make the experience a little less painful. There is just

such a bond and closeness you develop with the girls throughout the season. Winning a championship with girls you've gotten so close to is an amazing feeling.

**N-L:** How have you grown as an athlete and as a person since arriving at Hopkins?

**Name:** Tess Meehan  
**Year:** Junior  
**Sport:** Track/Cross Country  
**Major:** Undecided  
**Hometown:** Havertown, Pa.  
**High School:** Haverford

**TM:** I like to think that personally and athletically I have grown to become a better teammate. Spending so much time with your team, it is hard not to become invested in their performances along with your own.

Meehan and the relay will compete at the NCAAs this weekend, accompanied by sophomore Jenn Su who will compete in the pentathlon.

The other two Jays headed to Iowa will compete for the men's team. Andrew Barnett will go to the NCAAs with the second best score in the pole vault and Devon Conley will compete in the heptathlon.

The Jays will look to follow up on their two Conference titles this year, the fifth in a row for the men's team and the seventh in a row for the women's team.



HOPKINSSPORTS.COM

Meehan hopes to earn more All-American honors while at the NCAAs.

**Sammy Bhatia**  
*Sportpinion*

**I**n 2005, a quiet 19-year-old Spaniard took the men's professional tennis tour by storm. Rafael Nadal — or, more belovedly, "Rafa" — quickly built a passionate fan base with his absolute domination of the season's clay court swing quick ascent to world No. 2. He was a wild-card. Not literally, but in the sense that his play style was so wild, so unique and so unheard of that no player could beat him with ease. For one, Nadal plays left-handed, giving him an immediate advantage over most right-handed players whose forehands are usually stronger. His heavy topspin pushed players back, out of their offensive comfort zones. He was quicker, stronger and possessed more innate grit than anyone had seen from a player since the likes of Lendl or Borg.

The coaching deserves a ton of credit as well. With Kerr suffering from back problems at the beginning of this season, assistant coach Luke Walton led Golden State to a 39-4 record before Kerr returned and elevated Golden State's level of play even more. Through the end of February, they had lost only one game since Kerr's return in January, one.

The Warriors have not lost a home game since last January, they have destroyed the Spurs, they have pummeled the Cavaliers and, other than when they have played close games against the Thunder and the Clippers, they have appeared seemingly invincible against the entirety of the league.

"Dub Nation" and Curry are here to stay.

And if Kevin Durant actually signs with Golden State this summer, there will be — as the Miami Heat "Big 3" had promised — not two [titles], not three, not four, not...

Federer and Nadal have had what is widely called the greatest rivalry in tennis history, and in 2008, at the Wimbledon Finals, the two players competed in what is widely accepted as the greatest match of all time.

And so, it seems odd that Nadal, now 29-years-old, has been struggling as much as he has. In 2015, coming off his ninth French Open title, he was shocked in a three-set defeat in his first round of the Qatar Open where he was the defending champion. He would go on to fall

in the quarterfinals of the Australian, win the Argentina Open and then lose every single other tournament he played that year. It was the first year in the past decade that the Spaniard did not even win a single Grand Slam title.

This year, so far, has not been any better. Of the four players that dominated that last decade of men's tennis — Nadal, Federer, Novak Djokovic and Andy Murray — only Djokovic is playing at a continually high level. Federer has not clinched a Grand Slam title since 2012, and Murray has not added a third trophy to his collection. Granted, all players are in their late

20s and early 30s, the usual age for tennis players to retire.

The New Yorker recently published a piece entitled "The Twilight of Nadal" that hit the point more than perhaps any other article addressing his decline in form. The article, instead of lamenting his recently poor form and shoddy performances, praised him for the competitor he was

and lamented his absence from the sphere of contention.

His competitive spirit and loud, willful tenacity are what define him as a player.

His competitive spirit and loud, willful tenacity are what define him as a player.

Regardless of his legacy, it's important to ask: What's left for Rafa? Most commentators and sports professionals predicted that his intensely physical play-style would eventually cause him injuries and thus make him retire early. Is that the step for him? Or should he adapt his game for his age?

Two years ago, Roger Federer famously switched to a lighter and bigger racket that his 33-year-old body could more deftly handle. He began to attack the net more, thus finishing points quicker and expending less of his energy. Perhaps

Nadal could adopt a similar game-plan and move his points away from the baseline and closer to the net. Perhaps he could utilize his big forehand more and keep points short.

The main issue with Nadal's current playstyle is that he muscles his way through every shot and every rally. This, as you might expect, is wildly physical. A slow-motion examination of his forehand stroke reveals just how much brute force goes into his shots.

Whereas Federer's strokes are more swift, precise and elegant, Rafa does whatever is in his power to put a racket to the ball. If he does manage to make contact, which is remarkably usually the case, he flicks his arm in a circular motion that launches the ball on a high, rounded arc deep into the opponent's side.

He needs to at least try to mimic the playstyles of other older players on tour, because the way he is going right now is simply unsustainable. Federer, to bring in the same example, made his strokes shorter. Not only will Nadal continue to lose, he will further injure himself. A 30-year-old body simply cannot handle the strenuousness of Rafael Nadal's game.

Whatever it takes, there's no doubt in my mind that Nadal will be able to bounce back from this slump in his career. He's too young to be done.

# SPORTS

## Blue Jay Lacrosse reaps 17-7 victory

By SAMHITA ILANGO  
Editor-in-Chief

This past Saturday, the Hopkins men's lacrosse team came through with a 17-7 win against Princeton University. The home game was well-attended by students and alumni, and the win brought the team to a 2-2 record for the season.

The first 19 minutes of the game were neck-and-neck with a 3-3 split until freshman attack Kyle Marr scored the first of a five-goal streak for the Blue Jays.

The Tigers took this opportunity to step in as Gavin McBride took a shot, upping the score to 8-4. By the fourth quarter, Hopkins players Derrick Kihembo, Kieran Eissler, Patrick Fraser and Wilkins Dismuke added a collective four goals to the score, equipping the Jays with an eight-point lead.

Princeton's Austin Sims scored a single goal next, which was quickly responded to within 25

seconds by Blue Jay freshman Drew Supinski. Holden Cattoni and Dismuke rounded out the final quarter of the game, bringing Hopkins to a 10-point win over the Tigers.

The Blue Jays dominated faceoffs and ground balls throughout the game and, combined with multiple consecutive goal streaks, gave Hopkins a big home win for the fans who packed the Homewood Field.

The 10-point margin of victory is the largest Hopkins has had over Princeton since 1990.

Further, this victory is the first home game win against the Tigers since the Jays' 14-5 win in 2004.

Hopkins currently stands at fifth in the Big Ten, with Rutgers in first, followed by Ohio State, Penn State, and Michigan. The University of Maryland follows behind Hopkins.

The Blue Jays face Towson University in their next home match on March 12.

## Steph Curry captures America's imagination

Daniel Landy  
Sportpinion

I remember Steph Curry from his early days at Davidson College in North Carolina. He was a skilled and athletic scorer who propelled his small school to the national spotlight when the Wildcats reached the 2008 Elite Eight, where they fell just two points shy of the eventual national champion Kansas Jayhawks in a March Madness classic.

During Curry's final college season Davidson failed to return to the

However, Golden State's continued struggles kept him out of the spotlight.

Curry faced major setbacks in the 2011-2012 season. Due to recurring ankle injuries he played less than a third of Golden State's games and watched Ellis get shipped to Milwaukee for big-man Andrew Bogut.

This deal made room for the young Klay Thompson from Washington State, but also made it clear that the Warriors would look to retry what had been an unsuccessful rebuilding process.

Curry and the Warriors were on a steady decline.

He was a decent player on a team striving for mediocrity. It therefore came as quite the surprise to all when the Warriors, under their second-year coach Mark Jackson, were on a steady decline.

During his first season as a full-time starter, Billups emerged as an essential piece of this year's Blue Jay team. Standing six-feet-11-inches, Billups' presence was felt every minute he was on the court. Billups amassed an incredible 67 blocks on the season, making him the Conference's leading shot-blocker by a wide margin. This tally, combined with the 64 blocks that he accumulated during the first three years of his Hopkins career, puts the Hopkins big man third all-time in school record books. Billups was also a force on the offensive end of the floor, averaging 8.5 points per game, 6.4 rebounds per game and a .520 field goal percentage.

The following season was much of the same, with the Warriors once again demonstrating their legitimacy as a contender, but falling just short of the Clippers in a thrilling

After that, Steph fell off the map for a while. He got off to a good start, finishing as the runner-up for the Rookie of the Year award and putting up about 18 points per game for his first two seasons.

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COURTESY OF KETHE ALLISON/Flickr  
Steph Curry and the Warriors are winning at a record pace in 2016.

unexpectedly reached the playoffs in the 2012-2013 season in the almighty Western Conference, eventually reaching the Second Round before getting knocked off by the San Antonio Spurs.

The Warriors were in full-on rebuilding mode. However, it seemed like Curry would be a solid fit alongside Golden State's other young guard Monta Ellis from Mississippi.

After that, Steph fell off the map for a while. He got off to a good start, finishing as the runner-up for the Rookie of the Year award and putting up about 18 points per game for his first two seasons.

SEE WARRIORS, PAGE B11

## Men's Lax blows out Princeton at home



ELLIE HALLENBORG/PHOTOGRAPHY STAFF

In a much-needed victory after a couple of losses to top-10 teams, the men's lacrosse team knocked off the Princeton Tigers 17-7 in front of a packed house at Homewood Field on Saturday behind goals from 10 different Blue Jays. Saturday marked the first time since 2004 that Hopkins has managed to knock off Princeton, who is a perennial power.

INSIDE

### Athlete of the Week: Tess Meehan

Junior Tess Meehan takes home Athlete of the Week honors for her exceptional performances. Meehan is set to compete in the D-III championships this weekend. She will run in the 3000m and anchor the distance relay team.

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### Hopkins HOF: Eight new inductees

In its twenty-second year of existence, the Hopkins Hall of Fame welcomes eight new athletes into the exclusive club. The formal induction will occur on April 30. The tally of Hall of Fame members will grow to 176 with their induction. Page B10

## Billups, Williams honored by Centennial

By MATT MIYAMOTO  
For The News-Letter

tics and awards as an indication of personal achievement, however, but rather the result of the effort and achievement of a network of teammates, coaches and friends.

"This season and my career were about much more than this accolade; it was about the teams I was a part of and the relationships you build with the ones you depend on most, both on and off the court," Billups said.

Billups' emphasis on the importance of team and his unselfish attitude

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KELLIE HUNN/PHOTO STAFF  
Billups was absolutely ferocious on the glass all season long.

## MLB Preview: 0's in the AL East mix

Mitch Weaver  
Sportpinion

Baseball is back! Happier words have never been spoken. Well, it was a wild off-season. The Kansas City Royals took home their first World Series title since 1985.

Baseball's hot stove was in full force, with big name free agents finding new homes all over the place. Zack Greinke and David Price, each a Cy Young runner-up in his respective league, each landed with a new club — Greinke with the Arizona Diamondbacks, Price with the Boston Red Sox.

Jason Heyward, probably the most impactful position player on the market, landed with the Chicago Cubs, fortifying what already is one of the

most potent lineups in the game.

At this point, it seems the Atlanta Braves have traded away every major league regular with the exception being Freddie Freeman (poor guy), in an attempt to rebuild their stock of young talent.

In what was possibly the biggest heist of the off-season, the Braves sent quality starting pitcher Shelby Miller to Arizona for Ender Inciarte, Aaron Blair and Dansby Swanson. Swanson just happens to be the No. 1 overall pick in the 2015, a SS out of Vanderbilt University.

Teams also found new managers to lead their respective squad. The Mariners hired Scott Servais, the Nationals hired Dusty Baker, the Dodgers hired Dave Roberts and the Marlins hired Don Mattingly.

For as entertaining as the off-season was, the regular season always proves to be much more exciting, so here are my predictions for the 2016 season. Hopefully this goes better than last year!

### NL East

1. New York Mets
2. Washington Nationals
3. Miami Marlins
4. Philadelphia Phillies
5. Atlanta Braves

On paper, this is the easiest division to predict. The Mets have the best pitching in baseball and, until someone knocks them off their perch, they are the team to beat in the NL.

The Nats have plenty of talent, but always manage to screw it up. The Marlins could be a surprise here with a healthy Giancarlo Stanton and Jose Fernandez.

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## CALENDAR

Friday	M. Lax @ Georgetown, 2 p.m. (scrimmage).
Saturday	Women's B-Ball @ Muhlenberg, 2 p.m.
Men's B-Ball	@ Muhlenberg, 4 p.m.